

## THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

**Nancy's star part**  
How the ex-Hollywood actress became the ideal wife for a President

**Choppy waters**  
Shake-up for the ferry companies as the Channel Tunnel nears go-ahead

**Get my meaning**  
It's a good thing we don't speak the way we write, says Philip Howard

**Horse sense**  
Ginger McCain, who trained Red Rum to win three Grand Nationals, is back in the running

## Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won yesterday by Mr A. Alvey, of London. Portfolio list, page 18; how to play, information service, back page.

## Guidelines for nurses on Aids

Guidelines have been issued for health workers who come into contact with patients suffering from Aids.

Such patients should be nursed in isolation, and hospital staff should wear disposable protective clothing when taking samples. The health of such staff should be monitored.

Too few experts, page 5

## Belgrano delay

The Prime Minister said that Lord Lewin, Chief of the Defence Staff, was not immediately told of the first sighting of the General Belgrano, the Argentine cruiser that was sunk during the Falklands conflict.

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## Crisis flight

President Mitterrand announced on television last night that he would fly today to visit the troubled French territory of New Caledonia.



## Top Sikh shot

The head priest of the Sikhs' highest religious order was shot and wounded by a group of youths in a village in Punjab.

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## VE Day service

A service of commemoration in Westminster Abbey on May 8 is being considered as the centenary of Britain's VE Day celebrations.

Back page

## Fight threat

Eddie Thomas, manager of Welsh challenger Colin Jones, threatened to pull out of Saturday's World Boxing Association welter-weight title bout against Don Curry because the weigh-in time has been brought forward.

**Leader page, 13**  
Letters: On unemployment, from Mr Thomas Ellis; new rifle, from Mr R. Elliott; and Mr M. Spiro

**Leading articles: Polish Trial: VE Day: Cyprus Talks**  
Features, pages 10, 12  
The key to better housing: why the ad-men are searching for freedom of speech: the culprit in Bhopal. Spectrum: the Chancellor in crisis.

**Books, page 11**  
David Cecil reviews the letters of Robert Bridges; Gay Firth on fiction: Gorton Goulden on Burkhardt; David Rees reviews George Kennan's book about the origins of the First World War

**Obituary, page 14**  
Miss Katharine Pleydell-Bouverie, June

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## Legal threat to unions as rail strike goes ahead

Train services in the Midlands and Yorkshire will be disrupted by a 24-hour strike today over alleged harassment of railway workers in the Midlands who refuse to move coal.

British Rail has threatened to sue the rail unions for damages to cover losses caused by what it calls a "totally unjustified strike".

The High Court has confirmed Mr Henry Richardson's position as general secretary of the Nottinghamshire Miners' union, but has reduced his powers.

Pit deputies have severed links with the coal board and accused Mr Ian McGregor of being "cold and callous" in not meeting the NUM (back page).

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Train services will be disrupted today by a 24-hour strike over alleged harassment of railway workers in the Midlands who refuse to move coal.

British Rail warned the unions that it may seek damages for losses caused by today's action.

The brunt of the action will be felt in the East Midlands and South Yorkshire, but some London commuter services could be affected with guards at Waterloo station pledged to take sympathetic unofficial action and threats of similar disruption at King's Cross.

British Rail's threat of legal action was described as "the height of folly" by Mr Jimmy Knapp, the general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen. He said it would increase the possibility of other workers joining today's official action, which involves 5,000 rail workers at eleven depots in the Coalville and Worsop areas, Sheffield and Doncaster.

The unions were angered by the release of the British Rail statement containing the threat while the unions were still deciding whether to call off the strike. Mr John Pallette, the British Rail personnel director, said: "In fairness to our customers, we have to make it very clear to the unions that this present kind of situation will not be tolerated."

The statement said the strike was "totally unjustified". The board believed it had answered all the unions' allegations of harassment by police and local management. Employees who refused to move coal would be dealt with "firmly but fairly".

Mr Knapp accused the board of handling the issue in a ham-fisted way, saying the unions had been negotiating with the board since September to get the harassment problem settled.

"The blame for the serious and entirely unnecessary industrial action rests squarely on the shoulders of the British Rail board. Our members in the Midlands are simply carrying out the instructions of their elected executive committee. They must and will receive the protection of union membership," Mr Knapp said.

More than 90 per cent of the men are working normally. The ruling clears the way for Nottinghamshire miners to continue their defiance of the national strike call and dissociate themselves from the policies of the miners' union's national executive. A national union delegate conference is expected to expel the area on January 29.

Mr Richardson has been chosen as the man to organize a "loyalist" miners' union division in Nottinghamshire after that date, and he said yesterday that in the interim he will deal with correspondence from the union's national office at home and attend all meetings in his area in the usual way until the expected expulsion order takes effect.

The feelings aroused by the internal union clash were brought into relief yesterday, by Mr Paul Todd, solicitor for the working miners in Nottinghamshire, who argued that there was no animosity in the local

Continued on back page, col 5

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The Prince and Princess of Wales visiting Horton Hospital, Epsom, Surrey, yesterday. They drove through deep snow, from Sandringham to fly to Heathrow. Photograph: Julian Herbert

## Blizzards sweep on across Europe

By Richard Dowden

Blizzards are forecast for the south of England tonight by the Meteorological Office in London. "It will be the worst we have seen in this spell so far," a spokesman said.

Most of Europe is now caught in a layer of very cold air which swept down from northern Scandinavia unusually far south and west across the continent. Snow fell on the Costa del Sol yesterday.

In London the temperature fell to -4°C, the coldest since 1963, while Brighton recorded a temperature of -10°C.

Despite the severe cold, conditions on many roads improved slightly yesterday and police forces reported fewer road blocks and all main roads passable.

Trains have been fitted with snow ploughs in some parts of the country and in Sussex and Kent, which experienced the worst of the weather, most train services were delayed.

Hundreds of schools remained closed, either cut off by drifting snow or suffering from frozen water pipes and central heating breakdowns.

Many vegetables have doubled in price because of the cold weather, according to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Information Centre, and supplies could run out altogether if the bad weather continues.

The ground is so hard in some parts that it is impossible to lift crops and frost is damaging plants. Sprouts, leeks and greens are particularly vulnerable.

In Europe more than 300 people have been killed directly or indirectly by the cold and many parts are completely cut off. In northern Italy a state of emergency has been declared and troops have been brought in to clear roads.

Majorities in the Costa Brava and the Costa del Sol all had snow yesterday and traffic was brought to a standstill by a rare fall in Madrid.

In the Camargue, in southern France, 700 wild pink flamingos have died despite attempts by wildlife officials to save them. Fish, the birds' normal diet, have become frozen in the salt lakes. In Britain the Department of the Environment has imposed a

Continued on back page, col 3

## Pound down too far, says Thatcher

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister said yesterday that the pound had slipped too far, she did not like it remaining at its present low level, and that she was somewhat baffled by the slide.

She said in an interview on BBC radio Woman's Hour: "In my view, it's down too far and I do not like it sliding any further. I do not like it being down at this rate." And at the end of a lengthy defence of the country's economic standing, she said: "It's something of a mystery as to why sterling was falling."

Mrs Thatcher said: "I think you will find that there is something very strange in that the dollar is at a uniquely high position against all of the western currencies, and even currencies that you and I think of as tremendously strong - the Swiss franc, the Deutschmark - have been at record lows."

"It is a kind of new phenomenon, we have not encountered before, but we will have to learn how to deal with it."

But she then said: "One day it will break. You cannot go on with the dollar going up and up against other currencies, and I think most of us would feel that whatever happens it will happen smoothly, because uncertainty and suddenness are always very difficult for anyone in business."

Mrs Thatcher said that no Prime Minister liked to see the currency falling against the dollar. The Government had acted decisively, and the action had been effective.

She also repudiated a suggestion that intervention had been a U-turn, saying that similar action had been taken last July. "It's not quite as sudden as some people think," she said.

The interest rate "weapon" was sometimes necessary if inflation, still too high at 5 per cent, was to be kept down.

When the Prime Minister was asked whether the 2 point rise might not itself increase prices, she said that there had been predictions of 7.5 per cent inflation after the July increase in interest rates.

"They weren't right," she said, "and it was still 5 per cent in December, and I think that indicated a certain strength in the British economy."

The Confederation of British Industry yesterday gave its full support to the Government in its fight to bolster the pound. While attacking the rise in interest rates, business leaders expressed the firm hope that the level would come down again by the spring.

Ronald Butt, page 12

## Reagan aide gloomy on space weapons accord

President Reagan conferred yesterday with his chief arms negotiators on prospects for the forthcoming superpower arms control talks. (Christopher Thomas writes).

There is clearly a feeling in the upper reaches of the Administration that there is only the remotest chance of an early accord.

It was Mr Reagan's first meeting with the team that negotiated agreement in Geneva last week to resume arms negotiations, probably in March. Mr Richard Perle, assistant Secretary of Defence and a hardliner, said later that the Administration would propose "massive reductions" in nuclear arms.

It believed in far more chance of accord on intermediate-range weapons and strategic arms than on the "much newer and more difficult, complex area of space," he said.

While promising that the allies would be consulted before the United States deployed any weapons in space, he insisted that "in the final analysis, there are no international obligations that would prevent the US from proceeding with deployment" if it had once withdrawn from the 1972 anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty with the Soviet Union.

## Israel washes hands of Lebanon

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Defence Minister, claimed yesterday that if massacres took place on Lebanese territory evacuated by Israeli troops next month, it would be the direct responsibility of the Lebanese Government and the indirect responsibility of the United Nations.

Addressing an audience of Jewish fund-raisers at an Israeli air base, Mr Rabin said that Israel would be leaving the largest south Lebanese city of Sidon in four weeks. He emphasized that if anything happened to the 40,000 Palestinians housed in the city's Ein Hilwe refugee camp, it would not be Israel's responsibility.

There is growing concern here about the possibility of serious blood-letting in the 500 square kilometres of territory Israel is to evacuate in the first phase of its three-stage withdrawal from the international border. Between 600,000 and 900,000 Lebanese civilians live in the area.

In an apparent reference to the massacre of Palestinian refugees by Lebanese Phalangists in West Beirut in September, 1982, Mr Rabin said: "We want one thing. To hand over this piece of territory with its hundreds of thousands of people in a way that there would be no repetition of massacres or anything of this kind."

Israel Radio reported last night that negotiations between Israel and Lebanon designed to determine security arrangements in the wake of Israel's withdrawal, are due to resume on Monday under UN auspices in the south Lebanese village of Naqurah. It said that today's scheduled session had been cancelled by the Lebanese for "technical reasons".

Bitter recriminations are continuing inside Israel's right wing Likud block, one of the two main factions in the National Unity Government - about the split between its ministers over Monday's crucial vote sanctioning the withdrawal.

Mr David Levy, deputy Prime Minister who supported the pull-back vigorously defended his stand. He said he had not violated party policy since the Likud had not clearly defined its stand on the question.

Others might prefer to remain in the region. "Perhaps we will have to do something to protect them," he added, "but that's a difficult question."

● GENEVA: When the Israeli army begins its withdrawal "every Lebanese whose life is in danger because he cooperated with us - they are numerous - and wants even to come to Israel can do so," Mr Avid Kimeche, director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, said here yesterday (Alan McGregor writes).

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## Sharon wins first round

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Mr Ariel Sharon won the first round of his historic \$59 million (£52 million) libel action against Time magazine here yesterday. He needs two more favourable decisions to win the case.

Two months after he left Israel to do battle over the magazine's reporting of his role in the 1982 Lebanon war and the massacre of Palestinians in refugee camps, the jury emerged. Mr Sharon had been defeated in one paragraph of Time's cover story entitled "The Verdict is Guilty", published in February 1983.

Israel's former Defence Minister, now Minister of Industry and Commerce, said the words meant he had encouraged Christian Phalangists in the slaughter of more than 700 Palestinians in the Sabra and Chatila camps, near Beirut.

The partial decision by the four women and two men of the jury was the first of three needed to make a complete verdict.

The jury also has to say whether the disputed paragraph was false and whether Time knowingly published in a spirit of malice, with reckless disregard for the truth. If Mr Sharon wins, there would be a separate hearing to determine damages.

He was the planner and driving force behind Israel's Lebanon war, but the mass-



Mr Sharon arriving at the court yesterday.

acres in the refugee camps badly damaged his reputation and he lost his job as Defence Minister. The official commission which investigated the massacre said he bore indirect responsibility.

In the disputed passage in its report on the inquiry, Time said that "Sharon reportedly discussed with the Phalangists the need for the Phalangists to take revenge for the assassination of Bashir (Geddayel)". Time claimed this did not mean Mr Sharon had encouraged the massacre.

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## TUC moves to expel two unions who took ballot aid

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

TUC leaders set in motion disciplinary procedures yesterday which could lead to the expulsion of two large unions, the electricians and engineers, for accepting state finance for secret ballots.

But the punishment may never be carried out because the unions agreed to delay for at least two months a final decision and moves are afoot to change the policy.

The TUC's employment policy and organization committee voted 12 to 7 to invoke disciplinary rule 13, which permits suspension and expulsion, to make the engineers and electricians conform to the policy of non-co-operation with certain labour laws.

But the union have adopted a softer approach than yesterday's decision might suggest. The general council will be recommended to return the issue to the finance and general purposes committee for an inquiry which will take several months.

A proposal from Mr David Bassett, leader of the General Municipal and Boilermakers Union and a key figure in the centre-right coalition which holds power on the general council, for a special conference to ensure that TUC policy has the full support of its affiliates was thrown out unceremoniously.

Another suggestion, that the TUC general secretary, Mr Norman Willis, should report to the general council was also rejected, by 13 votes to six.

Union leaders were left with the delaying tactic proposed in a Congress House policy paper. That was approved.

If the general council agrees next week to proceed under rule

13 against the electricians and engineers, the two unions will be called in to explain their defiance of the 1982 Wembley conference decision. If they persist they will be summoned for a second time.

But proposals for changes in the TUC's attitude towards the Employment Acts of 1980 and 1982 and the 1984 Trade Union Act are expected to emerge during the union conference season. TUC moderates are putting their money on a shift in policy, to allow unions to operate the laws.

Mr Gerry Russell, of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday that it was questionable whether the employment committee could do anything under rule 13. The engineers have had a secret ballot on whether to accept state cash. The result, widely expected to be overwhelmingly in favour, will be announced in two weeks.

"The engineers will implement the decision of their members. We have been severely criticized by one or two people on the committee for holding on to our members, but I would like to know any union in Britain that would ignore a secret ballot of its members," Mr Russell said.

The electricians union has indicated that it will claim back from the Government several hundred thousand pounds for the ballots it has held during the past five years, but might freeze the money pending any change in its attitude towards the law. That pledge is on the table, but is not regarded as sufficient to forestall formal invocation of the disciplinary procedure.

## Forty peers line up for live TV debate

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Members of the House of Lords are competing vigorously to appear next week in the first live television showing of a British parliamentary debate.

With a week still to lapse before Wednesday's debate on the economy, the exceptional number of more than 40 peers had signified by last night their intention to speak.

Some are likely to drop out, but several others are expected to come forward. If the numbers do not shrink the debate is likely to last until well past midnight, although the BBC's main transmission will stop shortly after 7pm.

The debate, on the motion of a Labour peer, Lord Beswick, is on the need for the Government to develop economic and social policies which unite the nation.

The show is likely to be stolen by Lord Stockton of Ovensden formerly Mr Harold Macmillan, who will be 91 next month and whose maiden speech in the Upper House last November was universally acclaimed.

Although Lord Stockton was the thirtyfifth peer to put his name down, he is likely to be heard fifth, by virtue both of respect for age and of public demand.

The Bishop of Birmingham, the Right Rev Hugh Montefiore, is to make his maiden speech which has been awaited with some interest since his criticism of the Government last October for persisting in the "politics of confrontation".

Another maiden speech is due from Lord Monks, who is due to take his seat for the first time that day. Formerly Mr Gerard Collier, Lord Monks will be only the seventeenth hereditary peer on the Labour side.

He is also notable, since he is the first son of a peer who has established a peerage to succeed to the title.

## Whales beached

Villagers, fishermen and RSPCA officials tried in vain to save 34 stranded pilot whales yesterday on the coast near Spurn Head in Humberside.

## Toy soldiers gallop to dollar's tune

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Toy soldiers showed at Phillips' Toy Auction yesterday that they were dollar-linked (rather than sterling) commodities when a new auction record for a set of lead soldiers was made at £7,920. It was a Royal Horse Artillery six-horse gun team at the gallop with a limber, a gun, four mounted gunners and a mounted officer.

The set was made briefly in 1940 and 1941. Its extreme rarity involves the soldiers wearing steel helmets: in a much more common set they

wear peaked caps. An identical set of steel-helmeted gunners was sold two months ago, for £6,820, then the top auction price and predating the slide in the pound.

In New York on Tuesday, Christie's started the new year with an important sale of Old Master paintings totalling £3.3 million.

The star turn was a 1645 river landscape by Salomon van Ruysdael which sold for \$418,000 (estimate \$150,000 to \$250,000) or £366,666.

## RUC man told to lie over killing

Senior Royal Ulster Constabulary officers invented an account of a killing in Northern Ireland so that an officer would not have to reveal he was working on Special Branch information.

The sergeant was ordered to change his account of the shooting near Lurgan, co. Armagh, in which a teenager died and another was seriously wounded, Belfast. The officer, Sergeant "V", said that after the hayshed shooting he told senior officers what occurred when Michael Tighe, aged 17, was shot dead by an RUC anti-terrorist unit.

The officer told the trial of Martin McCauley, seriously injured in the incident who is charged with possessing three rifles, that he was given an invented account and told that under no circumstances was he to disclose that he was working on Special Branch information.

The officer said his fictitious account alleged he had seen a gunman running from a cottage to the shed but the true account was that a man was standing inside with a rifle.

One policeman had shouted a warning and then he and a colleague fired two bursts. Mr McCauley denies possessing three rifles, only one of which had a bolt.

The hearing continues today.

## Falklands get pledge on self-rule

By Rodney Cowton

The right of self-determination for Falkland Islanders is to be enshrined in a proposed new constitution for the islands.

A revised constitution for the islands is being considered by the United Kingdom Government, pulling together elements of the present constitution which are contained in a large number of documents.

A draft of the new constitution is being considered by the Falkland Islands Council, and the fact that Mrs Thatcher had agreed to the right of self-determination being enshrined in the constitution is said to have been greeted with great enthusiasm in the islands.

There has been concern among the islanders that Britain's other dependencies in the South Atlantic - South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands - are to be given a constitution separate from that of the Falkland Islands.

The Government appears to have made a concession to the islanders' feelings by proposing that as an administrative convenience all the dependencies should continue to be administered by the Civil Commissioner of the Falkland Islands, at present Sir Rex Hunt.

## Cold causes cancellation of hospital admissions

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The weather has led to the cancellation of scores of hospital admissions and operations in and around London.

The emergency bed service, which helps family doctors find beds, has declared a "yellow alert", asking hospitals to cut back non-urgent admissions. Some hospitals have gone on "red alert", cancelling all routine cases on some days.

Mrs Monica Craig, administrator of the service, whose future has been under threat as the four Thames regions question its £400,000 annual budget, said fractures and falls combined with the seasonal rise in chest complaints of bronchitis, congestive heart failure and hypothermia in the elderly was

putting extreme pressure on hospitals.

"They are having quite a few problems in admitting emergency patients. Most orthopaedic wards are overflowing, putting pressure on other beds."

A further deterioration in the weather could lead to the first "red alert", asking hospitals to cancel all non-urgent admissions, since the 1970s, she said.

Hospitals facing particular difficulties include those in Hillingdon, Bromley and Newham. The Mayday hospital in Croydon said it had had to go on "red alert", cancelling waiting list cases for the day on four times in the past 10 days, including yesterday.

## Radar to aid weathermen

More accurate early warning of heavy snow and rain should come with the help of a new weather radar system (our Science Editor writes). Equipment which can detect the intensity of snow, hail or rain up to 130 miles away was brought into operation yesterday.

The £800,000 London

## Anger over inquiry into police and pits strike

Mr Enoch Powell, Official Unionist Party MP for Down, South, yesterday led an outcry over the European Parliament's decision to set up a special inquiry committee into police action in the miners' strike.

Now pressure is mounting on the Prime Minister and Mr Leon Brittan the Home Secretary, to order the police forces throughout the country and other interested parties to refuse to co-operate in the inquiry.

Mrs Thatcher will face a barrage of questions in the Commons today from angry Tory MPs.

Mr Powell said yesterday that the decision to hold an inquiry would "teach people some of the consequences of creating a directly elected European assembly."

Mr Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, said: "This is an unacceptable and gross interference into the affairs of a member state. I hope the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary will make a statement indicating that we will ignore any of its findings and will play no part in the inquiry."

"This is an indication of the gradual erosion of national sovereignty of individual EEC countries. The Common Market is no longer an economic community, but day by day becomes much more a political community."

Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North, said: "I hope police forces will not co-operate. I shall be raising this issue in Parliament with the Prime Minister urging her to disown this scandalous and deliberate attempt to undermine Britain's internal affairs by meddling Labour MEPs."

The number of miners abandoning the 10-month-old pit strike is increasing, and the National Coal Board expects this week's returns to be the highest so far this year.

The coal board said that 340 "new faces" reported for work yesterday, bringing the total for the week so far to 2,283.

Mining equipment worth £500,000 written off because management staff involved in salvaging it from a coalface are needed on production work, the coal board said yesterday.

The Lion 299 face at Bates colliery, Blyth, Northumberland, had stopped producing coal before the pit strike began last March, but miners had been salvaging machinery and equipment for use elsewhere.

The High Court case in which Mr Arthur Scargill and other National Union of Mineworkers leaders are accused of conspiring to assault working miners will begin today when 19 working miners will seek temporary injunctions banning mass pickets and banning the spending of cash by the union on picketing which is not peaceful and therefore, it is claimed, not lawful.

## 'Get tough on homes for elderly'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Local authorities would have to take a tough line with private homes for the elderly and disabled under new legislation that came into effect on January 1, if Britain was not to see the "worst excesses" of commercially-based care which had occurred in the United States and Australia, a conference was told yesterday.

Prof Malcolm Johnson, Professor of Health and Social Welfare at the Open University said that the evidence from America and Australia was that failure to insist on high standards from the start led to malpractice, "astronomical" costs and "shameful examples of public failure causing private misery".

He told a conference in London, organized by Age Concern and the local authorities association that with the Department of Health and Social Security financing increasing numbers of the elderly in private homes, public as well as private money was involved. Local authorities would be challenged by home owners angry at the costs of better care.

Growth in numbers aged 65+ in residential homes in England

Local Authorities 95,000 104,000 108,000  
Voluntary 22,000 26,000 28,000  
Private 18,000 20,000 22,000  
Estimated; all numbers approximate.

Airlines cut fares to Spanish cities

Cuts of up to 45 per cent on scheduled flights to Spain from London were announced by British Airways and Iberia yesterday. They will be available on off-peak flights from Heathrow, Gatwick and Manchester to Madrid, Malaga and other Spanish cities with the biggest cuts available in July and September.

Reductions include: Madrid midweek return, £131 compared with a current £238; Barcelona £133 (at present £190); Bilbao £133 (£176).

Sinn Fein wins video reward for electricity bill

Sinn Fein, political arm of the IRA, has been given a video recorder by the Irish Republic's electricity board in a scheme to encourage customers to pay promptly.

Sinn Fein's paid-up account in central Dublin was chosen by computer from 1,200,000 qualifying consumers in a monthly draw.

An electricity board spokesman said yesterday: "The number was checked to see if the account was paid within 14 days."

## SAS man shot dead on firing range

A joint Army and police investigation is to be mounted into the death of Sergeant Raymond Abbott, aged 31, of the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) who died of gunshot wounds during training at the regiment's headquarters in Hereford yesterday.

The Ministry of Defence said the incident happened on an army range at Hereford but would not say whether the training was target practice or a more elaborate exercise.

A spokesman said live ammunition was regularly used in training areas with ranges and by all regiments. "You cannot expect to train a man in accurate marksmanship using live ammunition."

The SAS has a 750-acre training area next to the village of Abbey Dorset. Villagers have frequently complained of full-scale mock battles, often held at night, involving explosions, helicopters, powered hang gliders and parachute drops.

Sergeant Abbott was single. The MoD could not say if an inquest would be held. West Mercia police referred inquiries to the ministry.

## Five years for meter fraud

John Baird, aged 55, a former meter collector of Morndunvale, Edinburgh, who defrauded the South of Scotland Electricity Board of £173,538 by turning back meters in more than 80 establishments, was yesterday jailed for five years.

Baird had lodged a special defence at the High Court sitting in Dunfermline incriminating his son-in-law, Graham Jansch, but after Mr Jansch flew from South Africa to clear his name, Baird's counsel, Mr Ian Hamilton, QC, told the Court that attacks made on Jansch in evidence were totally untrue and Baird now pleaded guilty to the fraud.

## Detained Briton visited by wife

Mrs Pat Plummer was briefly reunited yesterday with her husband, Robin, one of the four Britons detained in Libya, in the detainees' new quarters outside Tripoli. She said that her husband was well and that all four were relaxed since they had been moved.

Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, who also visited the four yesterday has still not been given a date by the Libyan authorities when a decision on the Britons' fate will be made.

## BBC transmitter plan ruled out

An application from the BBC for new radio transmitters for its World Service to be erected at Bearley, near the Royal Shakespeare Company's theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, was rejected yesterday by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The RSC feared that the six transmitters, with 300 foot towers, would affect the workings of delicate electrical stage equipment at the theatre.

## Record advert

The longest television advertisement ever broadcast in Britain, a seven-minute 10 seconds long, is to be transmitted on TV-am on Sunday morning. The advertisement, for a Manchester mail order company, was approved yesterday by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

## Nalogo vote

Thousands of electric workers have voted for industrial action in support of a 25-hour week, the National and Local Government Officers' Association said yesterday. But little effect on power supplies is expected.

## Cruise protest

A cruise missile left Greenham Common in Berkshire early yesterday, amid protests from peace campaigners that vehicles known to have poor road handling should be allowed out in icy conditions.

## Sinn Fein wins

The Times overseas selling prices

Australia \$2.00, Canada \$2.50, Europe \$1.50, India \$2.00, Japan \$2.50, New Zealand \$2.00, South Africa \$2.00, USA \$3.00, West Indies \$2.00, Zimbabwe \$2.00. The Times overseas selling prices are subject to change without notice. All prices are in pounds sterling.

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By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Government's new and contentious economic policy for the regions today gets its first full Commons battering from the Opposition and almost certainly from many Conservatives aggrieved that their areas have not been granted special treatment.

While the Government is unlikely to suffer any embarrassing defeat from today's debate, it is sure to face a deal of carping criticism; regional policy is one of those issues on which no government can ever win unanimity of satisfaction.

The re-drawn map of Britain's assisted areas was disclosed at the end of November by Mr Norman Lamont, the Minister of State for Industry, after several years of investigation and study and 12 months of lobbying by a varied group of interested parties. His reception was far from enthusiastic; nobody welcomed the changes in the way public money is handed out to industry and commerce, except the Treasury, which applauded the predicted £300 million cut in regional aid spending by 1987-88.

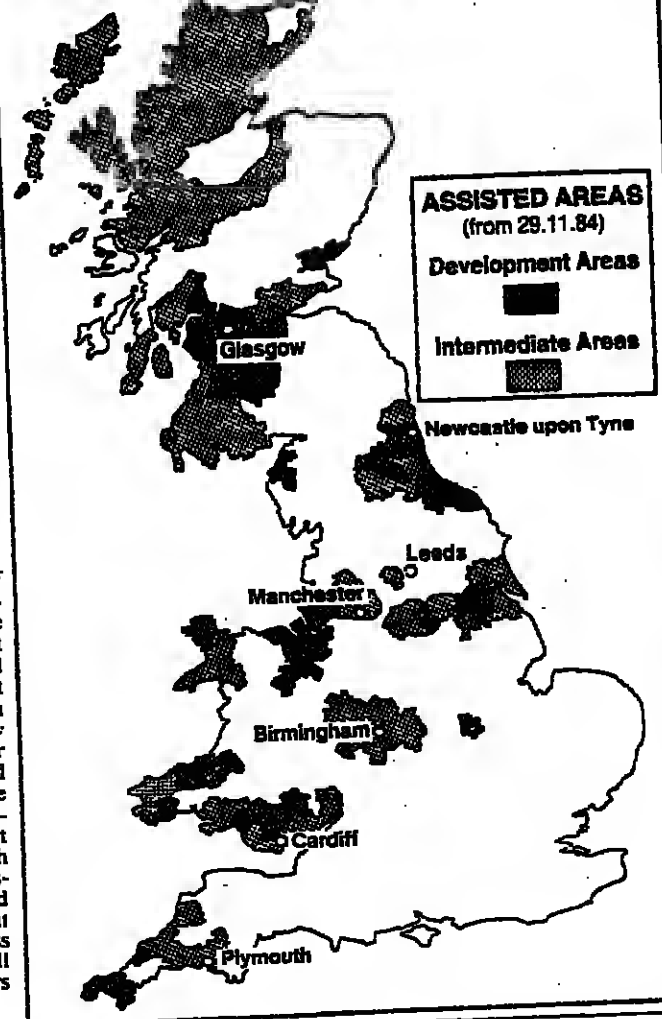
Predictably, Mr John Smith, the shadow trade spokesman, said at the time that the revamped policy ensured only that a much reduced amount of jam was spread more thinly, but Mr Roger Gale, the Conservative MP for Thanet North, said Mr Lamont had gone "nowhere

near far enough. We would like to see, instead of regional aid, sectoral aid which would help industry country-wide."

The new policy, which replaces one that most industrialists and civil servants agreed had become too costly and out-of-date, concentrates on job-creating investment under a streamlined two-tier system.

The old development and special development areas are to be replaced by development areas with the second tier comprising intermediate areas where only selective assistance will apply. Automatic grants in the new development areas will be limited to a cost per job of £10,000 which compares with £35,000 per job in the 1970s.

Charges of inflexibility and of doing little to rectify the deep-seated disparities between the distressed and more affluent regions are likely to be laid against the Government. But today's government motion leaves little scope for a Tory revolt. It welcomes the closer alignment of the new assisted area map to areas' relative needs for increased employment opportunities, agrees that it is right at a time of high unemployment to relate assistance more directly to jobs, and calls on MPs to approve that "the increased cost effectiveness of regional assistance will enable the burden on tax payers to be substantially reduced."



## Jenkin to meet Labour group fighting rate-capping

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

But a departmental spokesman said yesterday that he would meet councillors collectively, including it seems representatives of Liverpool, which is not being rate-capped in 1985-86.

Mr Jenkin also seems to have abandoned the date announced as final deadline for appeals against rate-capping figures - Tuesday of this week. The "final" deadline was yesterday declared to be January 24, when the Govern-

ment plans to lay parliamentary orders fixing limits for the 18 councils (16 of them Labour) facing a cap on their rates.

Determination not to be picked off by Mr Jenkin in separate deals was the keynote of yesterday's meeting of the Local Government Campaign Unit, which, although it nominally represents some 45 councils, is the vehicle of Labour councils facing rate-capping.

The Labour leaders said that their ambition was to force the Government to repeal the Rates Act 1984, and to enunciate the 1980 and 1982 Acts, which set the present system of penalties and targets. In addition, they wanted extra rate support grant of £4 billion to

The group is to write to Mr Jenkin indicating an intention to meet him.

Parliament, page 4



## MPs call for 80mph limit and tougher driving test to improve road safety

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

As all-party group of MPs called yesterday for a trial 80 mph speed limit on motorways in spite of its rejection by transport ministers last month, the proposal was promptly condemned by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, whose director of road safety, Mr Michael Read, described it as "misguided". Higher speeds would lead to more death and injury RSPA said. The organisation is to press ministers to resist the MPs proposal.

Mr Harry Cowans, chairman of the committee, said however

that the proposal had been very carefully considered. The committee members felt that it would improve safety by getting rid of the "convoy situation" which had developed since coach and lorry speeds were increased last year.

The MPs' proposal was supported by the Association of Chief Police Officers, and was also welcomed yesterday by the Automobile Association. The 80 mph limit would apply only to cars and would have to be rigidly enforced, Mr Cowans said.

The committee's report,

which was compiled after a two-year study, says that although deaths and injuries have declined during the past decade while road traffic in Britain has grown, accidents still cost £2.4 billion a year and are "far too high".

The committee recommends that a longer driving test should be considered.

The MPs also say the recommended level for drink-drive offences should be reconsidered.

The Department of Transport said last night it would be having a "long hard look" at the report and hoped to improve road safety with the committee's help. Road Safety, House of Commons 103-1, Stationery Office, £5.55

### Road Accidents in Britain 1972-82

	1972	1982	% change
Killed	7,783	5,834	-25
Serious injury	81,338	79,738	-2
Slightly injured	250,826	248,523	-1
Total casualties	339,947	334,095	-2
Index of motor vehicle mileage (1949 = 100)	505	639	+26

## 'Double company-car tax'

The licence fee should be doubled for company cars, and tax allowances scrapped, according to the environment group, London Amenity and Transport.

Company cars account for half of new car registrations and cost £1,500 million a year in tax evasion, equivalent to a £75 subsidy from every household.

Tax evasion includes claims for commuting mileage, and

fuel for leisure journeys or siphoned off from the company car in a two-car household. Other illegalities include turning the tax-free mileage allowance into a private use: a practice which adds £1,000 to the price of a car.

Company cars should be phased out over a period, with doubling of tax as a first step.

The Company Car Factor (London Amenity and Transport, 3 Stamford Street, London SE1 1JZ).

## High failure rate in bus tests

By Michael Horsnell

In the country, which is now at the centre of privatization proposals, passed the test first time.

An alarming 53 per cent of London Transport's 5,000 buses failed; and only 49 per cent of Passenger Transport Executive buses in the Metropolitan areas, and 67 per cent of local authority buses, passed. About 36 per cent of the 26,000 private buses passed the annual test.

The figures were heavily disputed by London Transport, which said 65 per cent of its buses passed first time, and a further 29 per cent after the

most minor adjustments, while still in the test centre.

A spokesman said: "These are terribly misleading figures put out by the Department. A bus can fail because a piece of chewing gum is found on the bottom of a seat, because an internal light bulb needs replacing or because of a scratch in the paintwork."

A spokesman for the National Bus Company said only 12 per cent of buses failed after minor rectification, and that no more than 6 per cent of failures are caused by mechanical defects.

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Dummy run: Nicholas Treadwell, the gallery owner (left), discussing Graham Ibbeson's "Doppelgänger", with the sculptor Gordon Gouler before the opening today of the second International Contemporary Art Fair at Olympia, London. (Photograph: Jonathan Player).

## Dog 'theft was April Fool joke'

A woman accused of stealing a weapon expert who briefed senior officials on the Trident missile programme, had financial difficulties and betrayed the confidence of the Ministry of Defence by passing confidential documents and information to The Observer, Bristol Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mrs Marion West, aged 38, said she was being paid expenses for helping David Pearce take Barney and black-mail his owner, Mrs Jean Clayden, Chelmsford Crown Court was told.

Mrs Clayden, aged 42, described as a friend of the Duke of Edinburgh, said that the dog was stolen after she ended a sexual relationship with Pearce, a lodger, groom and handyman at her stud farm at the Vinery, Kelvedon, Essex.

Pearce, aged 35, and West, both from Stevenage, Hertfordshire, denied stealing the dog and demanding £2,000 with menaces for its safe return.

## Trident man 'bought' by paper, jury told

From Tim Jones, Bristol

Raymond John Williams, a weapon expert who briefed senior officials on the Trident missile programme, had financial difficulties and betrayed the confidence of the Ministry of Defence by passing confidential documents and information to The Observer, Bristol Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Michael Broderick, for the prosecution, told the jury: "Putting it crudely, bluntly and to some extent colloquially, I can sum up the Crown case by saying the defendant was bought and as a result, he betrayed his employers' confidence in return for money."

Mr Williams, aged 38, of Charlecombe Lane, Bath, pleaded not guilty to two charges of corruption. It was alleged he had received payments from the Sunday news-

paper totalling £1,500 for supplying documents and information to the paper and one of its journalists, Mr Patrick Bishop.

Mr Broderick said that in October 1983 Mr Williams' diary had indicated he needed £2,000 quickly or his home and car would be at risk. It also showed that after sending a letter to the paper he had meetings in Bath and London with Mr Bishop and other representatives of the newspaper.

On one occasion after £1,000 had been paid by the paper into his account, he was seen by a clerk from his bank sitting on a bench in Bath passing papers to Mr Bishop and another reporter.

The hearing continues today.

## Cable TV may keep to business

By Bill Johnstone Technology Correspondent

New cable television networks may contain few if any entertainment channels and may be used only for carrying business data or non-entertainment services such as armchair shopping or banking.

The policy was outlined by Mr Jon Davey yesterday at the announcement of his appointment as director general of the Cable Authority, the watchdog of cable television.

Such a policy is a significant departure from the government's plans of three years ago. The Information Technology Advisory Panel, envisaged a typical model network to consist of 30 channels, of which 20 were entertainment.

## Code for keeping animals in school

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

Schools in England and Wales are crawling with animals large and small, from goats, gerbils, chickens and cockroaches to poultry, pigs, and sometimes cattle, according to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Such is the volume of queries from schools about how to look after the creatures that the society has produced guidelines telling them which animals they should keep and how they should look after them.

Small mammals, such as gerbils, mice, rats, guinea pigs and rabbits are suitable, it says, although hamsters may not be because they like to sleep during the day and become aggressive when tickled by inquisitive children. Birds, fish and certain amphibians are also considered suitable by the society.

However invertebrates, such as stick insects, locusts and American cockroaches, should be kept only for up to half a term, the society advises. "Invertebrates should not be exposed to any stress and should be seen to be treated with as much respect as vertebrates."

Animals which are wild mammals and wild birds (because they can transmit disease); carnivores (because they may like to eat children); primates (because it is against the law) and amphibians.

If there is a good educational reason for keeping an amphibian, schools may do so, but they should return them to their natural habitat as soon as possible, the guidelines say.

They add that some native species, for example the natterjack toad and great crested (warted) newt, are protected by law.

The guidelines remind schools that animals should be attended to every day.

## Comedian is cleared of car charge

Billy Connolly, the comedian, was cleared yesterday of careless driving. Magistrates at Weston-super-Mare, Avon, took less than a minute to find Mr Connolly, aged 42, from Fulham, west London, not guilty of driving on the M5 at Kingston Seymour without due care and attention.

His Volkswagen Beetle convertible overturned on to a grass verge last June.

Mr Connolly, a member of the Institute of Advanced Motorists, was alone and no other vehicle was involved. He spent a day in hospital recovering from a head injury and bruising.

Magistrates were told that a cast iron brake drum from the nearby wheel fell in two parts when examined. Mr Walter Robinson, a member of the Institute of Diagnostic Engineers, said the split brake drum caused the wheel to lock momentarily, forcing the car to skid.

## Explicit Lennon prints on show

Eight sexually explicit lithographs by John Lennon which were seized by the police from the London Arts Gallery went on display at Beattie City Museum, Liverpool, yesterday, the fifteenth anniversary of the raid.

The drawings, part of a collection of 14 called "Bag One" drawn on his honeymoon with Yoko Ono in 1969, show the couple engaged in various acts of love.



## Airport boy goes home

Miloudi al-Majdooli, aged 13 (nearest), who was found wandering alone at Heathrow airport last week, reunited yesterday with his mother, Mrs Elkarira al-Majdooli and his younger brother Samir at the Moroccan embassy in London, before leaving for home in Paris.

The boy explained that he had travelled in the lavatory of a train from Paris to Geneva, where he boarded a flight

## GP drug budgets as spending control

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Health ministers are considering giving family doctors individual "drug budgets" to help to control spending on general practitioner services.

The vote would follow the introduction of the Government's proposed "black-list" of drugs for which the National Health Service would no longer pay from April 1, as another step to controlling spending on drugs.

The budget idea is one of a number of options being considered for inclusion in the Government's Green Paper on family doctor services, planned for the spring.

Individual doctors or group practices would be given a budget for drugs, which they would not be allowed to exceed. As an incentive to prescribe economically they might be allowed to keep any savings, or more likely, would be allowed to spend any savings on improvement to their practice.

The move arises in the main from Treasury pressure to improve the forecasting of

spending on family doctor services, which, unlike the hospital service, are not cash-limited. Because they are demanded by the number of patients who turn up for consultations, spending has tended to exceed forecasts.

Family doctors would almost certainly oppose the move. The GP drugs bill has risen in part because to save money some hospitals have been discharging patients with only a few days' supply of drugs, telling them to go to their doctor for further supplies. Earlier discharge of patients from hospitals has also pushed drug spending from the hospital to the family doctor side.

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PARLIAMENT JANUARY 16 1985

Rate support grants

Heath's call

Peers on disarmament

# Jenkin would like to abandon targets

## COUNCIL SPENDING

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Environment, was loudly cheered by both sides of the Commons when in opening a debate on the rate support grant for English local authorities, he said that he would like to be able to abandon targets and holdback on local council spending.

Much depends (he said) on the level of local authorities' expenditure in 1985-86; and second, on the alternative pressures on them to bear to achieve delivery of the Government's public expenditure plans. I am considering this urgently, but there is nothing more I can say today on that. In my speech I am assuming that the target system has to be retained for 1986-87.

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find economies in their spending.

Last year the Opposition had warned of steep rate increases but the average rate increase was 5.5 per cent, the lowest increase for 10 years.

If local authorities budgeted to meet their targets next year, the average rate increase should be even lower than 5.5 per cent.

Changes made in grant related expenditure assessment this year represented real improvements to the fairness of GREAs overall and therefore in the fairness of the system of distribution of block grant. It could not be right to freeze all GREAs in their present form for all time simply because changes meant there would be losers as well as winners.

A further important change for 1985/86 was to give more of the available grant to authorities spending at or below GREAs. The objective was to recognize the achievements of low spenders.

This year 84 per cent of authorities spending at or below GREAs had been able to achieve their targets. The Government's public expenditure plans, I am considering this urgently, but there is nothing more I can say today on that. In my speech I am assuming that the target system has to be retained for 1986-87.

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added) are fast increasing because of the appalling social and economic consequences resulting from Government policy. Millions more people face hardship, deprivation and poverty compared to 1979. No improvement in the management of services can hope to offset the combined effects of major increases in demand and the withdrawal by the Government since 1979 of 12 per cent of their finances in real terms.

Education was undermined; so were other services. Redundancies occurred and vacancies were unfilled. These were in reality the aims of Government policy. Towns, cities and boroughs started to suffer neglect.

Councils trying to respond to the legitimate aspirations of the people were not only penalized but subjected to abuse and vilification. Ministers and Tory MPs turned a blind eye to all the problems. Ministers also abused their own powers and acted unlawfully. For instance, they had been deliberately and unlawfully robbed of £30m by the Secretary of State for Transport (Mr Nicholas Ridley).

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## 'Generous George' suggests the way out

Mr Younger: I do not accept Mr Douglas's figures. While I fully appreciate that Scottish teachers feel strongly about what they see as injustices, they are complaining about them in the wrong way. By far the most reasonable way to deal with it is to ask the body which was set up for precisely that reason to look into it.

Mr Douglas (Western Isles, SNP): Is Mr Younger not surprised at the action of the Scottish teacher after ten years' erosion of salary levels and what they find is the futility of dealing with him? Far from playing the role of 'Generous George' he is playing that of 'Generous Jaruzelski'. One thing that is surprising is the forbearance of the teaching profession.

Mr Younger: Comparing Scottish teachers' pay since 1979 with other grades, they have had similar rates as local authority and civil servants. I have not turned down the complaints out of hand. Rather than disrupt our schools, I hope they take up my suggestion.

Mr Douglas (Western Isles, SNP): I suggested that the reason why Mr Younger could not go ahead with public expenditure plans was because of an instruction from the Treasury about the planned tax cuts at Easter.

Mr Younger: The teachers' employers were in much the same position as any other employers in Britain and had to consider what was reasonable to give them.

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## TEACHERS' PAY

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teacher in England they got their salary increase. He compared the pay increase of teachers and MPs.

Mr Younger said that he was the hours worked should also be compared. Mr Douglas (Western Isles, SNP) said that he was not surprised at the action of the Scottish teacher after ten years' erosion of salary levels and what they find is the futility of dealing with him.

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# Geneva the first step on difficult road

## DISARMAMENT

The beginnings of a show in East-West relations which had been achieved at the recent disarmament talks in Geneva provided the perfect opportunity to press home the need for all nations to join together in opposition to nuclear weapons.

Lord Mollay (Lab) said in opening a debate in the House of Lords on the need for the Government to take the initiative in bringing forward new and realistic proposals for world disarmament.

It was no longer a question of war and peace, but about the entire future of the globe, he said. The world was moving rapidly towards a final thermo-nuclear war and the only escape was for the peoples of all nations to use their power and influence in unison. It could not be done by one people or one government; it could be done only by all.

There was a greater enemy than the Soviet Union and that enemy was inaction; disarmament had been talked about for years, I would be justifiably proud (he said) if the initial steps were taken by my nation.

European monetary system. There were also times when Britain should be prepared to intervene in oil pricing.

Mr Edward Heath (Old Bexley and Sidcup, C) said he was not an advocate of what the Chancellor described as voodoo witchcraft. He regarded the present level of unemployment as appalling; the situation north of Watford was shameful.

Public investment had a major part to play in dealing with unemployment. The Chancellor would not have expected him to be convinced by anything he had to say. Public opinion showed itself as giving priority to dealing with unemployment before dealing with tax cuts.

Provision of infrastructure to improve opportunities for private enterprise was a responsibility of Government which could not be privatized. The Government should carry out that responsibility.

Lord Brockway (Lab) said the Government should support a treaty against the first use not only of nuclear weapons but of conventional weapons as well. There were all the conditions in the world now for such a treaty.

Lord Chalfont (Ind) said it would be unwise to become too euphoric about the results of the meeting in Geneva which was only a hesitant first step forward and within 24 hours the Soviet Union had announced conditions for the success of the talks including the abandonment by the United States of its strategic defence initiative.

Lord Graham of Edmonton, from the Opposition front bench, said it was not surprising that after 40 years of the East and West glaring at each other there should be suspicions on both sides.

Lady Young of Stirling said that a negotiated world-wide ban, there was no doubt, was the only way forward. The Government was considering manufacturing chemical weapons.

Other countries used their powers of intervention in the money market effectively and selectively, but no country at a time when they could get the speculators to burn their fingers. That was a technique to which this country must return. They could not sit back and think the market would do everything for them.

The international market was dominated by the United States regardless of everybody else's interests. The Chancellor would return empty-handed from Washington because the American administration was not in a mood to run its policy in any other way and even if it wanted to, the American people would not let it. They were riding high, on a budget deficit of \$200 billion and a trade deficit of \$130 billion and rising.

Nothing the Chancellor had said today would give any hope to the nearly four million unemployed.

There was a danger that British savings were drained across the Atlantic in search of high interest rates. British companies were not investing in Britain but putting their money on deposit in search of high interest rates in the United States.

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# People acquitted in JPs' courts 'should get costs'

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent

The present injustice whereby defendants acquitted in magistrates' courts may be left to find the costs out of their own pockets should be ended by an amendment to the Prosecution of Offences Bill, the Law Society says today.

In a briefing paper for peers at the start of the Lord's committee stage considering the Bill, the society says that proposals redefining courts' powers on the awarding of costs do not go far enough.

Under the Bill both magistrates' courts and the Crown court will be able to award costs to acquitted defendants out of central funds in indictable (triable by jury) cases.

But the same powers should apply to summary offences (triable only by magistrates), such as offences of criminal damage involving £200 or less, obstructions of, or assaults on, police officers, certain public order offences, common or

aggravated assaults and many driving offences which can lead to disqualification.

As the law stands, the society says, courts can award costs only in the case of offences triable either only at the Crown court or by either Crown or magistrates' courts. But courts are reluctant to award costs against the prosecution unless it has obviously been at fault in bringing proceedings.

As a result, "a substantial injustice is often done to defendants who are acquitted and left to pay their own costs," it says. The defendant feels doubly aggrieved because he has been through the trauma of a criminal trial and has also had to pay the costs of successfully defending himself.

The problem is worse in the case of summary offences where legal aid is frequently refused, the society says. Where a court is unwilling to order payment of

costs by the prosecution, there is a clear case for it having power to award costs out of central funds to a defendant acquitted in a summary offence and the Bill presents "an opportunity to remedy this injustice."

Another "injustice" is that there is no power either under present law or in the Bill to empower courts to award costs from central funds to a defendant who successfully appeals to the Crown court against a conviction for a summary offence.

The society makes several other suggestions to improve the Bill: in particular it suggests that the local Crown prosecutors must be of sufficient status in order to be able to deal with the local chief constable on an equal footing; and that the prosecutors' independence must not be compromised through having to give advice to the police.

Mrs Brenda Power, chairman of the bench, said that supervision had been inadequate and no one could predict what future harm could have been caused to workmen or even residents nearby.

# Farmer who grew to welcome oil

In the picturesque and affluent counties of southern England, oil discoveries are becoming an important political and environmental issue, JOHN YOUNG, Agricultural Correspondent, talks to a farmer under whose land oil was found.

Nearly four years ago, oil was discovered underneath Mr Richard Porter's farm in north Hampshire. Had it been in the United States, he would have become a millionaire overnight, but in Britain all mineral royalties accrue to the Crown.

But far from feeling resentful, Mr Porter seems eminently happy with his new tenant, the oil company, Cairns Capel. There are three sites on his land, each of about two acres, and each of which will be occupied by eight pumps when the Humble Grove field comes into full production.

"Of course I had qualms at first," he says. "Nothing like this had ever happened before. But we knew the oil companies were carrying out seismic surveys, and they still are all over this part of England."

"When they found oil, much to everyone's surprise, I decided this had happened before. But we knew the oil companies were carrying out seismic surveys, and they still are all over this part of England."

# Crew taken off oil rig

Forty-six people were taken off a North Sea oil rig yesterday after two engineers were killed and two crewmen injured in an explosion on Tuesday night. The well was secured and no pollution reported.

The explosion occurred in a pump room of the Glomar Arctic II, which was drilling in the Joanne field 145 miles off Aberdeen. The rig operators, Phillips Petroleum, said the cause of the explosion was not known.

The dead were: Mr John Traut, aged 33, from California, the chief engineer and Mr Mark Paradiso, aged 23, from New Jersey, an assistant engineer.

Mr Otto Brandt, aged 28, from Texas, was released from Aberdeen Royal Infirmary but Mr Michael Simpson, aged 27, from Leicester, was detained for observation.

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# Court told of 'sick joke'

Anthony Chapman, aged 39, an ex-docker, of Foundry Square, Nonon Green, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, told a court yesterday that he treated as a "sick joke" claims by the Ministry of Defence police that he had links with the IRA.

Mr Chapman, a former Staffordshire police constable, is on trial at Chester Crown Court accused of receiving stolen ammunition.

He said: "I was offered police protection and a new identity if I co-operated and said what they wanted to be said about the IRA. I treated it as a sick joke. I only supplied shooting clubs and other dealers."

Mr Chapman denies three charges of handling ammunition stolen from the Royal Ordnance factory at Radway Green, near Crewe in Cheshire. The trial continues today.

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# Job outlook better for graduates

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

Job prospects for graduates this year are good, better than at any time in the past four years, according to the three organizations concerned with graduate appointments.

They say that employers are looking for more graduates this year than last, and that in some areas demand is 20 per cent higher than in



## Too few experts as risk grows of new infections, physicians say

By Thomson Prentice

Science Correspondent

New and rare infections in Britain, including Aids, Legionnaires' disease and Lassa fever, are posing increasing hazards to public health, while the number of specialists who can deal with them is declining, according to a report published this week.

At any time, 20 per cent of hospital patients in England and Wales are suffering from infections, half of which are acquired in hospital. But there are only 44 consultants in infection, and only eight in tropical medicine throughout Britain, the Royal College of Physicians of London says in the report, which appears in the January issue of its journal.

It adds: "Most specialists in community medicine today have little or no training or experience in infectious diseases and tropical medicine, and yet are faced with grave responsibility when outbreaks of infection occur in the community or in hospital."

The hospital infections are causing particular concern among certain groups of patients, including the newborn, the elderly, those undergoing major surgery and requiring intensive care, and transplant patients who are receiving immunosuppressive drugs, the college says.

"Increasingly, such infections are caused by less common organisms which are frequently resistant to standard antibiotics. In addition, hitherto unrecognized infections such as Legionnaires' disease and the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (Aids) are constantly emerging and posing new diagnostic and therapeutic problems."

An increase in imported infections has been caused by the "enormous escalation in air travel", the college says, and sometimes, as with Lassa fever, there are "onerous public health implications".

The training of microbiology

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Aids) is a disease, transmitted through contaminated blood, and other body fluids, which attacks the central nervous system. In the United States, 3,687 of the known sufferers have died. In Britain, 46 of 108 such patients have died.

Although scientists in Europe and America have identified a virus, known as HTLV-III, as the probable carrier of the disease, many of the factors associated with it are unknown, and no effective treatment has been found.

In Britain, all cases known to doctors are registered by the Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre at Colindale, north London.

staff in parasitology is "inadequate", and the fact that there are so few paediatricians in Britain with a special interest and training in infection is "a matter of concern", according to the report.

The College recommends that the number of infectious diseases physicians should be increased from the present figure of between 60 to 70, and that they should be trained in the management of imported infections, including parasitic diseases.

It also suggests that some smaller hospitals might have a post serving two special interests, such as respiratory medicine and infection, or immunology and infection. A few such posts already exist. The number of paediatricians with special interest and training in infection should also be increased.

Future consultant staffing in communicable and tropical diseases, Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of London, The Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LE.

## Changing the face of Whitehall to meet needs of government

Programme will cost more than £100m

By Charles Kneivitt

Architecture Correspondent

After 20 years of debate, indecision and blight, Whitehall is gradually being rebuilt as the home of government. By the time the current programme of new building, restoration and repair is complete at the turn of the century, the final bill will be well in excess of £100 million.

Work is being organized by the Whitehall Co-ordination Committee of the Property Services Agency, part of the Department of the Environment. Mr Colin Pain, assistant director of the agency's London region, describes its role as looking at the rationalization, refurbishment and redevelopment of the area, a process which involves the location of people in government departments, as much as the physical state of the property portfolio.

At the Foreign and Commonwealth office a £4.5 million first phase contract of a five-phase refurbishment plan has begun, that is on top of £5.5 million which was spent three years ago after the Home Office moved out. Across the road on the other side of the Cenotaph, more than £28 million is being spent on rebuilding Richmond Terrace as the probable home of the Overseas Development Administration.



Mr William Whitfield with a model of Richmond Terrace development (foreground) and new buildings designed by him (right of centre).

On the neighbouring Bridge Street site, Sir Hugh Casson is providing a new House of Commons library and MPs' offices behind the listed facade on Parliament Street, in the first of a two-phase plan. If all the approvals are obtained, the £16 million phase one scheme will be completed by 1990.

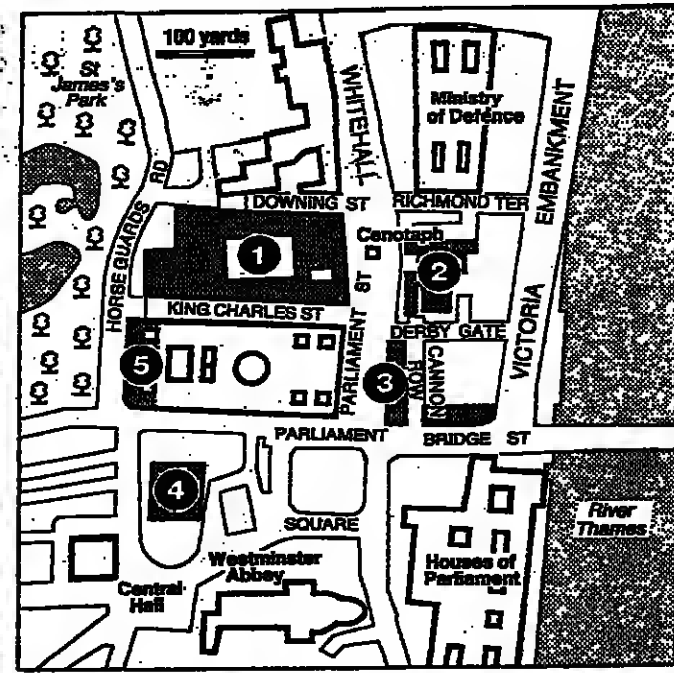
The most prominent new building, so far as public and tourists are concerned, is the

£44 million International Conference Centre in Broad Sanctuary, opposite Westminster Abbey, due for completion early next year.

In addition to the rebuilding and refurbishment, the rolling programme of stone repair, restoration and conservation at the Houses of Parliament is also at the half-way stage, at undisclosed cost, with the east facade, internal courtyard and

Victoria Tower due for completion within five years.

Gone are the two ambitious plans for MPs' accommodation in new buildings on Bridge Street, contained in the Robin Webster and Robin Spence competition design of 1973 for a bronze-clad block with saunas, restaurants and a roof garden; and Sir Hugh's earlier (1978) scheme, for a £119 million building for the same site.



Whitehall facilities: 1. Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Old Public Office). Work began last April includes stripping out asbestos, new services such as heating, lighting, lifts, new telecommunications facilities and security measures, double glazing rooflights and cleaning marble inside the building, which covers 5.5 acres. Phase two is due to start in October 1988 in a rolling programme to the turn of the century.

2. Richmond Terrace: Development of the Grade II Georgian terrace is in three parts. The terrace is being reconstructed to one-room depth behind the listed facade, and linked to a new six-storey building behind. The adjoining buildings facing Whitehall and Parliament Street will be refurbished and their facades restored.

3. Bridge Street: Phase one, in Parliament Street, is to be completed by a Commons sub-committee in the next few weeks. The proposal will keep St Stephen's Tavern, the MPs' public house, and the 'fences' along

Parliament Street, which are listed, as well as a number of listed buildings. Phase two, in Bridge Street itself, includes the Norman Shaw south building, which will remain MP's accommodation. The rest of the scheme, including buildings number one and two, is still to be decided.

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## SDLP seeks changes in court ritual

From Richard Ford

Belfast

Sweeping changes in the practices and symbols of Northern Ireland's courts are recommended in a Social Democratic and Labour Party document. It is bound to anger unionists as it proposes removing references to the Crown and changing the name of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

The changes, suggested in a paper to be discussed at the party's annual conference, would end symbols and practices which the document describes as "retarding the 'unionist ethos' of the court."

If the changes were implemented the party argues, it would help to restore the nationalist community's confidence.

The party is critical of the use of informers, plastic bullets and the operation of the police authority and the complaints procedure.

It says that the composition of the judiciary, with 17 members drawn from the Protestant-Unionist tradition and only three from the Catholic-Nationalist tradition, is hardly balanced.

Arguing that addressing magistrates and judges as "My Lord" and "Your Honour" is seen by nationalists as having a ring of British Colonialism, it suggests that in the province they should be addressed simply as "judge" and "Mr/Madam magistrate".

## 'No decision yet' on books tax

The Prime Minister has told senior academics that speculation about value-added tax being imposed on books and journals "has not been inspired by the Government."

Lord Flowers, chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, Sir Andrew Huxley, president of the Royal Society, and Professor Owen Chadwick, president of the British Academy, wrote to Mrs Margaret Thatcher expressing "deep concern".

Mrs Thatcher replied that although the Government favoured a shift from taxes on earnings to taxes on spending, "we have no set views at present on how this might best be done."

### Cabbie's son

Miss Janice Reid, who was living with Mr David Wilkie, the taxi driver who was killed taking a miner to work, gave birth to his son at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff on Tuesday.

### Shrine attack

Hundreds of pounds of damage was caused when vandals smashed eight statues of saints and angels at Carfin Grotto, Lanarkshire.

### Store expansion

Fine Fare, the supermarket chain is to open nine new shops in Scotland next year, creating about 1,500 new jobs.

## Heart repair hope for girl

The Australian girl whose father robbed a McDonald's hamburger bar to pay for her to have a heart and lung transplant may instead undergo an operation to repair her heart.

Doctors at the National Heart Hospital in London have been carrying out extensive tests on Brooke Matthews, aged five, during the past week.

The hospital said yesterday that detailed heart X-ray photographs were being studied by Mr Magdi Yacoub, the transplant surgeon, and Dr Jane Somerville, a consultant paediatric cardiologist.

They would decide, probably today, whether "radical repair work" could be performed on the heart.

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## The Popieluszko murder trial

## Secret policemen tell of meetings to rid Poland of 'troublesome priests'

In an angry, frustrated mood, a secret police officer told his colleagues 10 days before the murder of Father Jerzy Popieluszko that the Solidarity priest should be thrown out of a moving train "to frighten him a bit", a Polish court was told yesterday.

The court in Torun, where four Polish secret police agents are on trial for their lives, gleaned remarkable insights into the practical workings of church-state relations as two witnesses described the various office conferences about how to rid the country of "troublesome priests". The two witnesses were police officers who coordinated with their colleagues in the secret police to initiate joint action against Father Popieluszko.

As the main witness, Mr Leszek Wolski (rank unstated), but believed to be a major) started to describe his work, it became apparent that the mild skimming between lawyers of the Popieluszko family and Judge Artur Sujawa, the principal judge, is threatening to become a major source of conflict, perhaps undermining the credibility of the show trial. The family lawyers are clearly trying to demonstrate the innocence of the murdered priest, while Mr Wolski, in politically weighted asides and over-rulings, is displaying his Communist Party affiliations.

"The trial is worthy of Kafka," one courtroom observer reported. "Sometimes it

seems as if the victim in the dock."

Ten days before the murder, a number of the crucial police officers concerned with the affair gathered in the Interior Ministry in Warsaw's Rakowiecka Street. They included Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski, in the dock as the acknowledged operational leader of the kidnap. Mr Wolski and his respective deputies, Mr Janusz Drodz and Mr Jozef Baczynski. They gathered in the ante-room of the deputy director of church-monitoring, Colonel Adam Pietruszka, charged with complicity in the murder of the priest.

Mr Baczynski testified yesterday that Piotrowski has said: "We might frighten Popieluszko a bit and throw him out of a train". His mood seemed to be angry, irritated, he was speaking out of dislike for the priest. . . .

Mr Piotrowski, who sits on the wooden benches under guard close to his co-defendants, Lieutenants Leszek Pekala and Waldemar Chmielewski and Colonel Pietruszka, laughed, scratched, inspected his nails, simulated indifference as the two witnesses described his anger with Father Popieluszko.

But the judge reserved his most obvious displeasure for Father Popieluszko's three lawyers, who are tried and tested defence counsel of Solidarity activists. Mr Jan Olszewski had to ask simple questions such as "Did you issue orders to follow Popieluszko in writing or orally?" several times and never received a clear answer.

One lawyer asked if Mr Wolski had ever attended one of Father Jerzy's Masses and whether he had ever heard the priest appeal - as he did frequently - for Solidarity supporters to take down their banners.

"I am sure the banners did not bear quotations from the Bible," interrupted the judge. The lawyers rephrased the question. "I can see no need for you to ask that question," said the judge. "And if you persist in doing so I will deprive you of the right to speak."

material we had gathered that would compromise him," Mr Wolski conceded that it was his and Captain Piotrowski's idea that Father Popieluszko should be singled out.

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Leading article, page 13

## Sikh head priest is injured by gunmen

Delhi (Reuters) - The head priest of the Sikhs' highest religious order was shot and wounded yesterday at a village in Punjab state, the Press Trust of India reported.

The agency said that Jathedar Karam Singh, head priest of the Akal Takht in Amritsar Golden Temple, was hit by six bullets fired by three youths near the town of Ludhiana.

The Akal Takht, the Sikh headquarters, was badly damaged in June when Indian troops stormed the shrine to root out extremists fighting for an independent Sikh nation.

PTI said three youths riding a motor cycle followed the priest's vehicle and fired as he stepped out of the car. Two other passengers were injured.

Senior Sikh religious and political leaders in Punjab have

condemned the attack as an act of cowardice.

The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who came to power soon after his mother was assassinated by two Sikh bodyguards on October 31, has given top priority to a solution to Punjab disorder.

Several Sikh leaders have welcomed the Gandhi initiative after his landslide election victory last month, but they have said measures must be taken to protect lives and property of Sikhs before any talks with the Government take place.

Mrs Gandhi's murder set off nationwide riots in which at least 1,270 people, mainly Sikhs, were killed.

Indo-Pakistan battle, page 8

## Ethiopians impounded relief ship

From a Correspondent Melbourne

The Australian Foreign Minister Mr Bill Hayden, is making urgent representations to Ethiopia over the impounding of an Australian relief vessel at Port Asch.

The ship, the Golden Venture, was carrying 9,500 tonnes of wheat, a water drilling rig, milk powder, biscuits, lorries, medicine and blankets, but 6,000 tonnes of the wheat and the drilling rig were intended for rebel-held areas of Eritrea and Tigré.

In Canberra, the Foreign Affairs Department has launched an investigation to find out what went wrong and how the Ethiopian Government learnt what was on the ship, the Ethiopians have previously turned a blind eye to famine relief being sent to the rebel provinces by some Western governments through Port Sudan in Sudan.

A row is brewing between the Australian Development Assistance bureau and the Australian Wheat Board. The bureau commissioned the Wheat Board to handle the shipping arrangements and officials are trying to find out what went wrong.

## Bonn to join European and US space projects

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Faced with the dilemma of whether to participate in the American manned space station project or the European Ariane programme, the West German Cabinet yesterday decided to take part in both. The cost to the taxpayer until 1995 is estimated at around DM4,500 million (£1,250 million).

Herr Heinz Riesenbueher, the Minister of Research, who was understood to have doubts over the space station project, said that the decision to join the American programme, which provides for a permanently manned space station, laid down the basis for wide-ranging transatlantic co-operation in space.

He underlined the purely civilian aspects of the project, and said Germany would continue to manage the European Columbus contribution, a module already developed by German and Italian scientists that plugs into the American space station.

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Offbeat welcome: Sir Georg Solti, conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, greeted by a Hamburg jazz quintet yesterday at the start of a tour which will include the Times Bicentenary concert at the Royal Festival Hall on January 31.

## Jamaican snipers take on troops

Kingston, Jamaica (AP) - Snipers and stone-throwers harassed police and soldiers overnight and early yesterday as they tried to clear roadblocks put up by demonstrators protesting against increased fuel prices. At least three people were killed in violence that spread across Jamaica.

Winter is the peak tourist time in Jamaica, but the authorities said none of the estimated 12,000 foreign visitors to the island was reported to have been injured in any of the disturbances on Tuesday. The police said the situation in most tourist resorts was close to normal.

They said police officers killed one man in Kingston after he fired on police at a roadblock and a motorist in Kingston was shot and killed by someone in another car. A third man was killed by shots fired from a van in Maypen, 30 miles north-west of Kingston, police said.

Unconfirmed reports said as many as six people had been killed and several others were in hospital, including a small girl hit by stones at a roadblock.

A police officer in Kingston, said yesterday that hundreds of people had spent the night at police stations because they were unable to get home.

"Prices for food and most other items have been doubled and tripled in the past two years, and Mr Seng, seeking to win approval for favourable loan terms from the international lenders for Jamaica, has raised taxes and laid off 6,000 Government employees. Unemployment is more than 25 per cent."

## Reluctant Gibraltar votes to give rights to Spaniards

From Richard Wigg, Gibraltar

Greenland's example as a dependant territory of Denmark, and leave the EEC.

The Bill will allow entry and residence by Spaniards, land purchase, setting up businesses, family allowances where resident, and emergency medical questions. Spain is to give equivalent rights to Gibraltarians.

The Government emphasized that free movement of labour would only come in, as in any other Community country, seven years after entry. But the Opposition believe that Spaniards will swamp Gibraltar's tiny public health service when those in self-employed trades move in from next month. The Government dismissed such fears as exaggerated.

Mr Bossano called the Bill "the most shameful piece of legislation ever presented to Gibraltar's House of Assembly".

Mr Adolfo Canapa, the deputy Chief Minister, former opponent of rapprochement,

said a partly opened frontier with Spain was not tenable. Gibraltar would keep in step with Britain and Spain deciding the future of the Rock over Gibraltarian heads.

Mr Canapa, who will be accompanying Sir Joshua to London immediately before Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, meets Señor Fernando Morán in Geneva on the same day as the frontier opening, was more outspoken. He invoked the possibility of a Northern Ireland situation with Britain taking direct responsibility, if Gibraltarians "got too far out of line."

A petition with more than 5,400 Gibraltarians' signatures, was handed in before the debate by five secondary schoolchildren, asking Parliament to turn down the Bill.

Spaniards would be forced into a unique special relationship with Spain, Sir Joshua rejected the link between implementation and sovereignty. On sovereignty, he declared: "We are all at one on that."

## Vote angers Knesset hardliners

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

The Orthodox Jewish religious lobby in Israel sustained a stunning setback yesterday when the Knesset, by a vote of 62 to 51, rejected their private members' bill on "who is a Jew".

The Bill was designed to deny application of the Law of the Return to proselytes converted by non-orthodox rabbis. The 1950 law recognizes the intrinsic right of all Jews to live in Israel and to acquire instant citizenship on arrival.

In practice, the proposed amendment was expected to affect a small number of potential immigrants but non-orthodox rabbis said that its adoption by Parliament would be regarded by conservative and reform Jews, the overwhelming majority, as a negation of their legitimacy as Jews. Rabbis in the United States said there was likely to be a grass-roots move to divert financial and political efforts on behalf of Israel to fighting this slur.

Religious hardliners were angered by the defeat of the Bill yesterday and deputa the Shas (Sephardi Torah Guardians) and Morasha parties talked of leaving the coalition.

The defection of religious parties from the coalition would not bring down the National Unity Government, which has an overwhelming majority in Parliament.

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## Police deny Nkomo was shot at in mob attack

From Jan Raath, Harare

Police said yesterday that no shots were fired at the vehicle carrying Mr Joshua Nkomo, the leader of Zimbabwe's main opposition party, Zapu, when he was attacked by a mob on Friday last week in Masvingo.

A statement in Harare said forensic and ballistic scientists had carried out investigations into the "heats and broken windows" of Mr Nkomo's armoured car. The damage was caused, by stones or bricks, but not by bullets, the police said. Bystanders said spears were also used.

Mr Nkomo claimed he saw pistols and automatic rifles being fired when the mob of supporters of the ruling Zanu (PF) party attacked the vehicle.

Independent sources who witnessed the scene confirmed police reports that no gunfire was heard. In the House of Assembly on Tuesday night MPs accused Mr Nkomo of being a liar.

Meanwhile, in Masvingo, North in the west of Zimbabwe, anti-government guerrillas on Monday killed their first victim this year. Police said Mr Michael Sibanda, the district chairman of Nkayi district, was bayoneted and then shot three times at Hlangahani in Nkayi district.

The killing followed a series of rallies in the area on Sunday, where Zanu (PF) Reinforce members campaigned for support in a Zapu stronghold. Last year guerrillas killed 27 civilians, according to police reports. Fourteen were officials of Zanu (PF) in areas where Zapu has influence.

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## Two die as gas blast wrecks row of houses

Brussels (Reuters) - Rescue workers removed the bodies of a three-year-old child and an elderly woman from the rubble of a row of houses blown up in a gas blast yesterday, but police said that the death toll could have been much higher.

"It's a miracle. People were literally blown out of their beds on to the street, then got up and walked away," one officer said.

Five people and one fireman were injured in the explosion which ripped through four houses and set two neighbouring homes ablaze in the Evere district of Brussels. The blast shattered most windows, and destroyed many cars in the street.

## Women killed by their dogs

Bonn (AFP) - Dogs driven to fury by intense cold attacked and killed two women, police reported from Bonn and Hanover. The first victim was aged 26 and died while taking her uncle's albatross for a walk, although he had warned her that the dog was always upset by ice and snow.

The second to die was aged 80. She was attacked by her 18-year-old greyhound, which partly devoured her body in a house where the temperature was sub-zero.

## Hollywood gays given a sign

West Hollywood, California (Reuters) - A sign saying "Fags Stay Out", hanging behind the bar in Barney's, Barney's, for more than 50 years, was removed to comply with a new law.

West Hollywood is the first US city to have a council controlled by homosexuals. Fags was spelled with one "f" and the owner maintained it meant only bundles of wood.

## Paper angry at Vatican ban

Rome (AP) - The Rome newspaper La Repubblica denounced as "punitive and discriminatory" the Vatican's decision to prevent its religious writer from travelling on the papal plane during the Pope's forthcoming South American tour.

The Vatican, in an unprecedented action, demand that the writer give up his seat on the papal plane. This Pope travels so much.

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Mr Grishin: In search of 'fraternal alliance'.

## Unity call to Warsaw Pact states

Moscow (Reuters) - A top Soviet official called yesterday for more cohesion and unity in the Warsaw Pact, two days after a meeting of alliance leaders was suddenly postponed.

Tass reported a speech given in Warsaw by Mr Viktor Grishin, the Moscow City Communist Party chief, to an audience including delegations from other Eastern bloc countries.

Mr Grishin, aged 70, said the seven-member military alliance, which celebrates its 30th anniversary in May, was called on to fulfil what he described as its historic mission.

"The stronger our unity and cohesion, our fraternal fighting alliance, the more reliable, the firmer the cause of peace and of preventing war," he said, a gala session of the Warsaw Council to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Polish capital's liberation from Nazi Germany.

His speech came the day after the Warsaw Pact was to have begun a summit meeting in Sofia in the Bulgarian capital. A brief announcement issued late on Monday said it had been postponed indefinitely, but gave no reason.

Western diplomats have said they could think of no other reason for the sudden move than a turn for the worse in the health of President Konstantin Chernenko.

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Presidential pair: Mr Mubarak (right) and Mr Karamanlis inspecting a guard of honour at Athens airport yesterday.

## Mubarak seeks to end Greek bias

From Mario Modian, Athens

President Mubarak of Egypt arrived here yesterday on a brief state visit to discuss bilateral relations at a time Greece is showing bias in favour of the so-called rejectionist Arab states which antagonize Cairo.

Greece announced a few days ago that it was selling Libya, Egypt's neighbour, military equipment worth \$500 million (\$440 million) over the next three years.

Although Greece assembles under licence, French missile

were adopted to protect President Mubarak during his 36-hour stay in Athens which is regarded as the European capital in which Arab terrorists can move and operate with relative ease.

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, has had to give up his own office at the "Maximos Mansion" to the Egyptian leader. The residence, next to Mr Karamanlis's presidential palace where most functions take place, has been cordoned off by police.

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## Run of draws continues in world chess

Moscow (AP) - The World Chess Champion, Anatoly Karpov, and his challenger, Gary Kasparov, playing white, agreed to a draw after the 26th move in the 42nd game of their world championship contest here yesterday. Karpov, who leads 3-1, will play white when play resumes tomorrow.

Forty-second game White: Kasparov. Black: Karpov

Queen's Gambit declined

1 P-Q4 P-Q4 2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 P-Q4 P-Q4 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4 21 P-Q4 P-Q4 22 P-Q4 P-Q4 23 P-Q4 P-Q4 24 P-Q4 P-Q4 25 P-Q4 P-Q4 26 P-Q4 P-Q4 27 P-Q4 P-Q4 28 P-Q4 P-Q4 29 P-Q4 P-Q4 30 P-Q4 P-Q4 31 P-Q4 P-Q4



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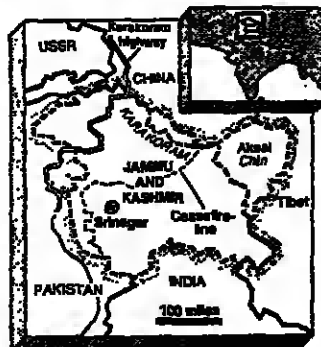
# India and Pakistan battle to dominate the frozen roof of the world

From Michael Hamlyn  
Delhi

The tension which exists between India and Pakistan has flared into actual conflict repeatedly in the past six months, resulting in more than 80 deaths, according to a senior Indian general.

The encounters took place in the frozen roof of the world, high above the valleys of Kashmir in the Karakoram range of the Himalayas. In the area of the Siachen Glacier, where the River Nubra falls in summer - through rocky valleys, but here snow and ice close in for most of the year. Pakistani and Indian troops have been battling to improve their positions, or defend the line of actual control established after the series of Indo-Pakistani wars.

Lieutenant-General M. L. Chibber, GOC Northern Command, says more than 50



Pakistani soldiers have been killed for breaching the control line, he said. Three Indian soldiers died in the encounters and 27 others in an avalanche during operations there.

General Chibber, speaking in Jammu, said the Pakistani attacks had been successfully repelled. "Indian troops have

foiled all the attempts by Pakistan in the area and the territory continues to be fully under Indian control."

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan told me recently that there was a dispute in the Siachen area, but denied it would come to fighting. "It is God-forsaken country up there," he said.

A Times correspondent also reported that the Indians had used paratroops to repel Pakistani attacks in the Nubra Valley early last year. The alleged purpose of the Pakistani incursions is to straighten the Karakoram highway into China, which takes a circuitous route to avoid the area controlled by the Indians.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, has been extremely cool in his recent public utterances about relations with Pakistan. He has given a warning that continuing American efforts to rearm Pakistan are a matter for serious concern to India.

## Ershad eases martial law

Dhaka (AP, Reuters) - President Ershad ordered the restoration of fundamental rights in Bangladesh yesterday and abolished special military courts established under martial law, an official announcement said.

Fundamental rights were suspended when General Ershad seized power in a bloodless coup, ousting President Sattar in March, 1982. They include the right of assembly, freedom of expression and the

right to form associations, and the Supreme Court's right to admit an appeal against the Government.

At the same time, President Ershad appointed a seven-member Cabinet comprising entirely of military officers as a step towards restoring democracy through parliamentary elections in April. He dropped all 13 former ministers from the government-backed Jannat Party.

● **DHAKA:** A dispute over an Indian plan to fence its entire border with Bangladesh erupted again yesterday for the first time since the issue was dropped last April (Reuters reports).

A Bangladesh Foreign Office spokesman said the Indian High Commission here was asked to tell Delhi that the proposed barbed wire fence could impair relations between the countries. The protest came after Mr Gandhi told a public rally that the fence would be erected soon.



Joy of charity: Mother Teresa, the Nobel peace prize winner, embracing a child during a ceremony in Hong Kong in which she was given a building to house the destitute. The building was presented by the colony's government to the missionaries of Charity, an order she founded in 1950.

## Germans test motorway speed limit

From Michael Binyon  
Bonn

The first Government-ordered experimental speed restriction was imposed on a 25-mile stretch of motorway between Hamburg and Bremen yesterday in an attempt to find out whether lower speeds will significantly reduce pollution.

Until October cars will not be allowed to go faster than 200 kilometres an hour (62.5 mph), on 20 selected stretch sections around the country. West Germany is the only country in

Europe which still does not have any general speed limit on its motorways, but the Government has come under increasing pressure from environmental groups at home and from its neighbours to impose a limit as a first step towards cutting air pollution.

The Government, conscious of the strong pressure from the car lobby which insists that a speed limit will ruin the market for fast German cars, has tried to put off a limit, saying the effect on the environment would be only marginal. But

last Autumn the Ministry of Transport announced that a series of controlled tests would be set up and in November Herr Werner Dollinger, the Transport Minister, will evaluate the results.

On the selected motorway stretches the volume of traffic will be measured and behaviour noted before the limits are introduced, and the same tests done after the 100 KPH limit. Until recently German public opinion has been sharply hostile to any limits and to any motorway tolls.

## Lack of EEC cash limits horizons as Italy takes over

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

In essence, therefore, the Community will have to pick over on its very limited resources for the next six months in the hope that success in the enlargement negotiations will make it possible to draw up a new budget for the rest of the year.

West Germany has refused to provide any more money until Spain and Portugal are admitted to the Community, so everything hangs on that.

Beyond the budget, Signor Andreotti hoped to be able to fix a date for an inter-governmental conference to agree on EEC institutional reform. He would also try to call an informal meeting among ministers to put together an effective plan for international collaboration against drug abuse.

The main thrust for Community foreign policy would be in the Middle East. He said pressure "can and must be stepped up" on the Arab and Israeli to start talks. Help had to be given to Jordan to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization about the occupied territories.

In East-West relations, Signor Andreotti believed the Community had a vital back-up in the arms talks between the superpowers.

## Inquiry into Pershing fire begins

From Michael Binyon  
Bonn

A parliamentary defence committee began a closed hearing yesterday into the causes of the accident involving an American Pershing 2 nuclear missile last Friday, when three American soldiers were burnt to death and 16 injured.

US military authorities have already begun an investigation at Heilbronn, the American base where the missile's fuel caught fire as it was being offloaded. A German Air Force officer will take part and a report is expected in about a month. Washington has promised Bonn that the German people will be fully informed.

The Bundestag Speaker refused to allow the Social Democrats to ask urgent priority questions on the accident, and Bonn has insisted the matter is for the Americans to deal with. There have been suggestions the accident was caused by the "extreme cold".

The Government has insisted the accident should in no way hold up the deployment of the new Nato missiles. Herr Kohl, Ruhl, State Secretary of the Defence Ministry, said yesterday that the population had never been in danger.

## Official in power site row quits

From Richard Bassett  
Vienna

Dr Emil Schuller, the senior Austrian civil servant in charge of police at the controversial Hamburg power station site, has resigned, and accused the Government of indecision in handling violent clashes with protesting environmentalists.

In an almost unprecedented move, Dr Schuller said the Government had denied its executive any reasonable power in dealing with protests at the site, east of Vienna on the Gach border.

After the most violent protests, on December 19, when police tried to break up the demonstrations with batons, the Government ordered police to withdraw while Cabinet considered the matter. But the absence of any new decision has only frustrated both Government supporters and opponents.

Dr Schuller's resignation has expressed for many Austrians the Government's lack of decisiveness. His remarks are seen as a sign that Austria's once-renowned art of political compromise may have been damaged irrevocably by the passions aroused by Hamburg.

## Coastguards repel pirate raid on cruise liner

Singapore (Reuters) - The Philippines Coastguard foiled an attempt by pirates to board a cruise liner carrying 260 passengers, mostly Australians, the captain of the vessel said yesterday.

Captain Malcolm Anderson, an Englishman, said four "local" men on an outrigger canoe tried to climb on board the 9,675 ton Coral Princess as it entered Cebu harbour in the central Philippines at dawn on Tuesday.

He said the pirates did not actually board the ship, and fled after one of their three outriggers was fired on by the coastguard.

The coastguard said earlier that the pirates were swarming on board the liner at the mouth

of the Mactan Channel when a patrol spotted them.

Captain Anderson said: "Only four locals from an outrigger canoe tried to climb aboard, but they were chased away by a coastguard patrol boat."

Passengers and crew on the Hong Kong-registered ship, which was on a cruise from Bali, spotted the outrigger before the coastguard came on the scene.

"There was no alarm among the passengers who took it all in their stride. It was the first such incident," he said.

The Singapore Government chartered the vessel earlier this month for a four-day cruise for 500 unmarried civil servants as part of an official match-making programme.



Boarders repelled: The cruise ship Coral Princess, owned by the China Navigation Co. of London.

## Second trial for 14 Hell's Angels arrested in 1983

Bonn - The trial opened in Hamburg yesterday of 14 members, including two Britons, of a "Hell's Angels" motor cycle gang accused of rape, indecent assault, membership of a criminal organization, trading in drugs and prostitution, robbery, fraud, causing bodily harm and racketeering (Michael Binyon writes).

Arrested in 1983, they were brought to trial in November, but the proceedings, behind bullet-proof glass in a specially converted court, collapsed six days later on a legal technicality.

## 16 face trial in Hungary for gold smuggling

Vienna - Sixteen Hungarians will be tried in March for complicity in the biggest case of gold smuggling in Hungary's post-war history, the official Budapest news agency reported yesterday (Richard Bassett writes).

The court will hear how a Hungarian married couple allegedly bought gold here on monthly shopping expeditions.

This was then smuggled across the frontier and sold for a vast profit in Hungary, where it is common with most European countries, gold is difficult to obtain.

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## THE ARTS

# London theatre

## Fatal alliance in masterly relief

Waste  
The Pit

This is the latest event in the slow-motion Granville Barker revival that has been going on for the past 20 years, each production revealing a master dramatist and each followed by another few years' neglect. I have given up hoping that these extraordinary plays will be absorbed into the standard repertory. But meanwhile here is a beautiful version of his final, once-banned, play, to be cherished before it too, in Barker's embittered phrase, ploughs into the sands.

Focusing on the kind of scandal that crops up in British public life, from Charles Dile to Cecil Parkinson, *Waste* follows the defeated career of Henry Trebell - a lawyer-politician who has drafted a Bill for the disestablishment of the Church of England, with which his party hopes to win the general election. The plan fails in pieces when it comes to light that Trebell has casually impregnated a fellow guest at a house party, her abortion and death are swiftly capped by his political downfall and suicide.

From that account you would expect a melodrama. What Barker presents is a symphonic elaboration of the story, examining the workings of the political system, the differing factions that meet in temporary alliance along an intricate borderland between public and private life.

At every point the play contradicts your expectations of the Edwardian theatre (it dates from 1907). There are no appeals to public opinion and no moralizing. The affair is conducted in terms of straightforward physical hunger, with no sympathetic invocations for a "wronged woman" (who is variously described as "worthless" and a "trull"). The two deaths are displaced from the action and introduced only in passing.

Bravest of all, Barker angrily protests against the waste of a great statesman while denying

him any conventionally attractive qualities. He is cold-blooded, egocentric, and he never apologizes. What you can say for him is that he always speaks the truth, and that, when he speaks of education as his religion and envisages disestablished churches humming with new intellectual life, you can share his vision and accept him on the play's valuation. In that respect, fastidiously withdrawn as he may be, he is a decided improvement on his intellectual predecessor in Barker's *The Madras House*.

John Barton's production is a conflation of the 1907 text and the rewritten version Barker prepared for the 1936 production; and the invisible mending has yielded a lucidly plotted version, pruned of political obscurities and preserving the satirical balance of extreme fastidiousness and plain speech that defines this author's unmistakable voice. Here is the sound of the Edwardian establishment on its home ground; elevated businessmen, bone-headed gentry, burning religious fervour, all under the silky control of a party leader (Tony Church) to whom the fate of the family pictures is of equal importance to the task of forming a government.

The sound of Mr Church in debate with these factions (Mark Dignam, David Killick, Charles Kay) is theatrical music of a high order.

But, whether or not Mr Barton intended it, that debate is overshadowed by the Trebell-Amy affair. Judi Dench's Amy undergoes a staggering transformation from a flirtatious bird of paradise with a soft Irish brogue in the first act to the desperate, businesslike woman who comes seeking a few moments of valuable time on a bay throughout the evening, turns to pure granite at her demand for an abortion.

It is a scarily intimate collision between two people who should never have met in the first place; but Miss Dench, making her exit to a backstreet quick, decisively wins it with



Searingly intimate collision: Daniel Massey and Judi Dench in *Waste*

her last appeal: "What impractical, sentimental children you men are. Tell me somewhere I can go." Though even this is outmatched in Trebell's later encounter with his sister (Maria Aiken) and with Amy's separated Irish husband (Bruce Alexander), a derisive medievalist who sees British politics from the vantage point of the thirteenth century. Never was there a character more remote from the stage Irishman.

Irving Wardle

Eden  
Soho Poly

In his literature, civilized man has always harboured idyllic visions of an arcadian golden

land of love and happiness. An Eden. A new play by Adrian Eckerley imaginatively poses the question what if...? What if it were both an uncharted desert island and a man? And suppose a suburban Henderson family were to go in search of it and find this sole surviving inhabitant?

At first it seems possible that dreams can come true. Eden the man has long prayed for the return of humankind (it seems the place was once an exotic and exclusive resort for the nineteenth-century social set). When it happens his gratitude changes him from solitary lord to willing slave.

As the encounter develops, the set changes from a colourful Rorschach inkblot background to a gloomy primitivist jungle as the characters move from hopes as wide as sea and sky to

the murky thickets of their inner selves. The Man Friday (Joseph Charles) turns out to be part sacrificial victim, offering himself too fully to each member of the family, and part psychiatric witch-doctor, unlocking their individual passions and obsessions.

The mood darkens and the noble savage catalyzes the savage sexuality in each breast: his exclusivity and jealousy cleaving family bonds asunder. The crusty, blimpish father (Michael Cotterill), at first almost palpable, as pale-faced Anna makes her way through all the other pale faces. Of course it is BBC literature and BBC history but, like the contents of a well-furnished room, they are now both reassuring and familiar: the music critic, the street scenes in which scores of people are all walking around at precisely the same moment, the perplexing attempts at a regional accent, all of these things are unbeatable.

Peter Ackroyd

manages in emerge unscathed, but wiser, from the experience.

But the Pleasure Principle company, and their director Mark Scanlbury, have not resolved the tensions between television sitcom acting and humour and an obvious desire for Eden to be regarded as a serious parable. Though the play is at times provocative and intriguing, suspension of disbelief becomes increasingly unwilling as the improbabilities multiply towards its sub-*Lord of the Flies* climax. And the writing struggles to hang on to its Big Theme somewhere between semi-mystical piddling and Henderson colloquial. Skill, Roy Plomley's guests never imagined a desert island could be like this.

Robert Page

## Television

### Manipulating lives

Real Lives (BBC 1) followed the interesting career of Victoria Mullova, a Russian violinist who defected to the United States in 1983. She was greeted in a haze of publicity but, as other defectors have discovered, the consequences of the freedom she sought with such assiduity are not always as expected.

As an account of her entry into a new world, this was a fascinating documentary: she learnt first how much she was "worth", since she soon realized that she had come to a country in which the power and dominance of money are taken for granted. And, with the money, came self-promotion as she was trained to change her manner on the concert platform. "The severe, unsmiling style of Soviet soloists", the commentator explained in almost too alliterative a manner, "is not popular".

There were more serious problems, however. The male companion with whom she defected was finding it difficult to get work as a conductor (his was in some ways the more interesting, because more political, reason for his defection: apparently non-Soviet institutions, the music critic. Her interpretations were described as "impersonal" or "cold", although those of course were the very qualities which allowed her to abandon her family and leave her homeland.

But she seemed happy enough; this stern, and very determined, young woman has in any case already proved that life is something to be grasped and manipulated rather than passively accepted. America may be her spiritual home, after all.

Anna of the Five Towns (BBC)

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## Concerts

### Voices decoded

BBCPO/Berio  
Free Trade Hall,  
Manchester/Radio 3

Some of the most fascinating musical works are those that were never written, like Beethoven's *Faust* or Wagner's late symphonies. To this repertory of the imagination may now be added, if on a lower level, Luciano Berio's orchestral arrangement of Brahms's F minor Violin Sonata, which was promised for Tuesday night's concert by the BBC Philharmonic but replaced in the event by a new work for viola and chamber orchestra, *1981*.

Berio being Berio, though, present reality was smeared with past possibility, if not in any overt reference to Brahms then certainly in the continuation of the idea of transcription. *1981* has the subtitle "Folk Songs II" and takes its material from the songs and street cries of Sicily, collected for the occasion by its soloist Aldo Bennici.

Unlike Berio's first Folk Songs, which consisted more simply of settings for Cathy Berberian to sing, *1981* is a fantasy woven around the original melodies. Of course, the fact that they are sung by an instrument and not a voice makes a difference, even if Mr Bennici's viola proved itself eminently capable of suggesting ethnic models: rough, guttural, and oriental drone-rooted lament. But, as anyone who learns his literary theory from David Lodge will be aware, any decoding is a new encoding, and Berio acknowledges this.

He decodes the folk music for

his solo viola then encodes it as a single-movement concerto of commentary and reminiscence.

The piece begins with the viola alone, and in a sense the soloist remains alone throughout, playing almost continuously along a pathway of whole tones, variants and motifs that seem to get stuck in his consciousness. Meanwhile the orchestra supports and qualifies but only rarely interrupts his monologue: there is one moment near the end when solo woodwinds flower in a tissue of folk songs, but more normally the ensemble is a haze around the viola - murmurous and tantalizing in the distance, or sometimes coming into closer focus. The work belongs with other chamber concertos by Berio for cello and piano, in which a soloist is given shimmering accompaniment, though in this case the Sicilian origin gives the solo line a harder profile.

The other work in the programme, also conducted by Berio, was his classic *Sinfonia*, which has recently been right royally decoded and encoded in a monograph by David Omond-Smith, *Playing on Words* (Royal Musical Association, £10.95).

As this study shows, there is a lot more to the work than the parade of quotations that spins through its central movement. Berio's own performance, helped by clear articulation and bright tone from the orchestra, brought forward its jittery rhythms and cool harmonic lights, the consonant patterns and vowel sounds of an orchestra that speaks.

Paul Griffiths

## Versatile winds

Chilton/Payne/  
Bennett  
Wigmore Hall

A windy night at the Wigmore: wheezes from the accordion and gusty blasts from the saxophone. The decibel power of Tim Payne's playing in Denisov's rancorous Sonata for Alto Saxophone was alarming and in Claude Pascal's entirely trivial Sonatine for the same instrument he and his spirited pianist Dina Bennett, swept the torrent of notes (originally a showpiece for Marcel Mule) away like a confident snow-plough.

We might have disappeared altogether in the drift had Payne's saxophone and John Chilton's accordion played together, but they did not risk that (the repertoire must be circumscribed - perhaps they could have adapted Seiber's Introduction and Allegro for Accordion and Cello).

Instead, Chilton demonstrated a wide range of uses for his instrument, from the relatively conventional in Robert Saxton's *Fantasiestück* to the positively bizarre in Jonty Harrison's (*SqWheez*). In the Saxton, receiving its first London performance, this most colouristically resourceful of composers and cope with an extremely limited palette of sound. The three-octave cell which began the work threw up some good material, but the

extensive two-part writing began to sound a little grey and certainly was less rhythmically well defined in performance than the programme note's remarks about metrical modulation led one to expect.

Harrison's (*SqWheez*), described as Music Theatre for Accordionist and Tape, promised some fun à la Kagel but turned out whimsical rather than amusing: a couple of minutes of air noise, followed by the odd random note, puppet-like gestures, the player bewildered by the interruption of the taped accordion noise, and after ten minutes a sort of cataclysmic throwing of musical bricks out of which emerged a single pedal note that the accordion player, with evident satisfaction, matched.

By far the sweetest music, however, came in Howard Skempton's *Twin Set and Pearls* this alone acknowledged the traditional language of the accordion in a lovely sequence of seven simple ideas, "brilliantly" with um-pah accompaniment, "gently" with harmonious thirds, "lightly" with a single line, "sturdily" with church harmonium chord sequences, "steadily" with Messiaen-like devotion, "slowly" with dislocated counterpoint and finally "extremely slowly" coming to rest on a reposeful major chord. Nice to hear one of those again.

Nicholas Kenyon

Theatre in the  
United States:  
Holly Hill finds one  
precious stone  
among rather more  
rubble on the New  
York stage

Joyful  
hymn to  
national  
game

"The Team" in *Diamonds*:  
engaging singing, dancing  
and clowning

Spare the tedium of real baseball games, but take me back to *Diamonds* (Circle in the Square-Downtown), the new Off-Broadway musical celebrating America's national sport. Zippily staged by Harold Prince, with sketches and songs by numerous contributors, the revue beguiles from the first sight of Tony Straiges's set. Cartoons of stadiums, famous players, slogans and clouds ooze a summer's day dot the walls, and in the finale the Statue of Liberty pops up wearing a catcher's mitt.

Surrounded by such amusing and apt decorations, a thoroughly engaging cast of 10 act, sing, dance and clown through 30 mostly clever and sometimes touching vignettes. Among my favourites was "Kasi Atta Bar". This Kabuki version of the famous American poem "Casey at the Bat" ends with "Casey" committing a "suicide play" and is interrupted by a vendor crying "sushi-get it while it's cold".

Other joys were John Lehr's "Psyched Out", in which Freud is agitated and a-glee when a baseball player describes his game problems in such double entendres as switch-hitting, double headers and scoring. The

song of a proper young lady who turns foul-mouthed when watching a baseball version of the Abbott and Costello "Who's on First" played by an adult and a child, a lovely Walter Mitty-type ballad, "What You'd Call a Dream" by Craig Carnelia (wonderfully sung by Scott Holmes), and a rousing gospel number about God throwing out the first ball make *Diamonds* a delight.

Also, four dramas recently opened had no such quality. Most successful of them was Martin Sherman's *Messiah* (Manhattan Theatre Club at City Center). The set of Tony Straiges (this Tony-winning designer of *Sunday in the Park with George* continues to dazzle with seemingly effortless inventiveness) a sparsely elegant rough wood floor and background, Linda Fisher's graceful costumes, and James F. Ingalls's evocative lighting suggest seventeenth-century Poland while being richly theatrical.

A beautiful young actress (as demonstrated in the film *Wolfer*, where she played opposite Albert Finney), Diane Venora has transformed herself into a variable bag for Rachel, and blends an inner radiance with earthy humour. Under David Leveaux's direction, she and a capable supporting cast carry Mr Sherman's play as far as it can go, as it loses momentum along with the bogus Messiah, leaving one not satisfied but stimulated.

Less can be said for the Manhattan Theatre Club's second offering, *Husbandry*, a product of last year's Louisville Humana Festival of New American Plays, is a drama behind its time. The troubled farm family Patrick Tovatt draws may have been topical when they sprang from his pen, but have been superseded by

such films as *Country* and *Places in the Heart*. As the author goes no deeper than the conflict between an ageing couple who want their son to come home and run the failing farm and his metropolitan career-minded wife, and leaves the dispute unresolved, the subject appears more hackneyed than it is.

The same is true of *Home Front* (Royale Theatre), the Broadway version of last summer's Hampstead Theatre Club offering, *The War at Home*. The balance of James Duff's post-Vietnam domestic drama has shifted here to the

comedic, largely due to the decent but lightweight performances of Carroll O'Connor as the father and Christopher Fields as the son. Mr O'Connor has not the rampaging bull quality of Timothy West; Mr Fields has none of the eruptive menace of David Threlkoff. While Frances Sternhagen is even better as the mother, having made her performance seamless somewhere between our shores, and Linda Cook in her Broadway debut approaches similar perfection as the daughter, the relative handiness of the men weakens the family stresses and renders the final scene even less believable than at Hampstead. One odd note: the Texas accents of the British cast were more authentic and sustained than those here.

A drama weighted by foggy ideas and inconsistent characters is Bill C. Davis's *Dancing in the End Zone* (Ritz Theatre). Though I have yet to see a play directed by Melvin Bernhardt in which most actors achieve more than strident stereotypes, the performers in *End Zone* are also hampered by flimsy characters - a possessive mother who may only be pretending to be an invalid, a naive college football player, a ruthless coach and a do-gooder tutor who equates football with war.

Most notable about *Dancing in the End Zone* was the successful attempt of its producer, Morton Gottlieb, to persuade all the participating unions and the theatre owners to work for less than the usual rates, in order to hold production costs and ticket prices down. If only better plays can be found, this noble effort to find a way of keeping straight plays on Broadway may yet succour America's Fabulous Invalid.

Inner radiance, earthy  
humour: Diane Venora  
transformed into a variable  
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NEVILLE MARRINER... PATRICIA WYNDENBERG... TAYLA THARP...  
JEFFREY JONES... CHARLES KO...  
Original music by... PETER SHAFER... SAUL ZAENTZ... AMILIOS FORMAN...  
Produced by... PETER SHAFER... SAUL ZAENTZ... AMILIOS FORMAN...  
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## SPECTRUM

## The man with a price on his head

The Times Profile:  
Nigel Lawson

"So far the Government's life, the preparation of public opinion and the communication of government policy have been its areas of greatest weakness. But although it is true enough that actions speak louder than words - and certainly words without action are useless - actions without words are usually dangerous and often impossible."

Not, as you might suppose, a commentary on the Chancellor's confusions over the pound - but Nigel Lawson himself, writing of his predecessor-but-one as Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1973. Thus do the words blithely let loose by a journalist return against him in government. Lawson is learning about communication the hard way.

The Chancellor is the fastest-risen of the Prime Minister's men. Like a soufflé, he is now surrounded by colleagues wondering if he is

kind of grudging respect. Healey, after all, had terrorized, fascinated and deeply impressed his Treasury civil servants.

There is something in the comparison. Lawson, like Healey, is possessed of high intelligence and a certain brutish aggression, easily repulsed by the strong but condemned by the weak as arrogance; both men take insufficient pains with the fools that litter their chosen professions.

One journalist Lawson admires once described him as "a man who would cross a road to pick a fight". Lawson may lack Healey's sparkling literary scholarship, but also his ex-hide. Today's Chancellor is sensitive and nervous about his public performances.

But in 1979, of course, he above all lacked Healey's weight. Nevertheless, he became, in public and in private, the creator and apologist of government economic thinking.

Inside the Treasury, while Sir Geoffrey Howe favoured exhaustive discussions of the options, Lawson favoured the single stroke of policy.

At this time Lawson forged a close alliance with the two officials who now run the Treasury under his Chancellorship - Sir Terence Burns, the Chief Economic Adviser imported from the London Business School, aged only 35, in 1980, and Sir Peter Middleton, the Deputy Secretary in charge of monetary policy who leap-frogged his superiors to become Permanent Secretary in 1983.

But in 1981 Lawson himself was overtaken - by a rather similar, though younger, Thatcher man, Mr Leon Brittan, lawyer and brother of Lawson's friend Sam Brittan of the *Financial Times*, was brought into the Treasury. He entered above Lawson, and in the Cabinet, as Chief Secretary, a thankless job which consists of beating down his superiors to become Permanent Secretary in 1983.

Wholly unprepared for the role, Brittan nevertheless survived and indeed enhanced his reputation. But when Mrs Thatcher was looking for a new chancellor, she sent the lawyer to the Home Office and brought the financial journalist back to the Treasury.

Lawson had meanwhile secured a seat in the Cabinet as Energy Secretary. It was a time when the Government was embarking on the choppy waters of privatization, and Lawson was soon in the thick of the storm. Share prices too high or too low threatened to wreck the reputation of the officiating minister, while a brawl with Sir Denis Rooke, satrap of the gas industry, exploded into public. But Lawson was spared a miners' strike and arrived at the 1983 election with a considerable increase in political weight.

At the Treasury, Lawson's old allies rejoiced at this appointment, but from the beginning there was a risk of imbalance. The top of the Treasury ran smoothly, with its

Permanent Secretary, Chief Economic Adviser and political head in such perfect accord.

But they are perhaps too alike: clever men with a high level of economic expertise, but - either by job or by instinct - lacking links with the rest of the outside world, and above all lacking a popular presence of policy.

Trouble came early, with Lawson's emergency package of spending cuts after the 1983 election. The old guard in the Cabinet was outraged, most of all by learning of the package first from a story in *The Times* - one of a series of leaks that created Treasury

paranoia by the time of the 1984 Budget, and a cumbersome and wholly ineffective police inquiry.

The leaks drew the top of the Treasury closer together, into an inner core of secrecy which did nothing to foster good relations with the rest of the outside world.

Despite these worries, Lawson's first big set-piece - his 1984 budget - was a triumph. It was more popular than any of Sir Geoffrey Howe's, even his first tax-cutting Budget in 1979. It was seen as innovative and trend-setting, with the kind of attention to tax reform the Conservatives had been promising for years. It

was also markedly more popular than the Treasury expected.

But there were clouds on the horizon. Pessimists in the City were heard to mutter that Lawson was loosening up on monetary policy, together with weakening oil prices and an ever-strong dollar, doubts about monetary policy were to undermine the pound from then on.

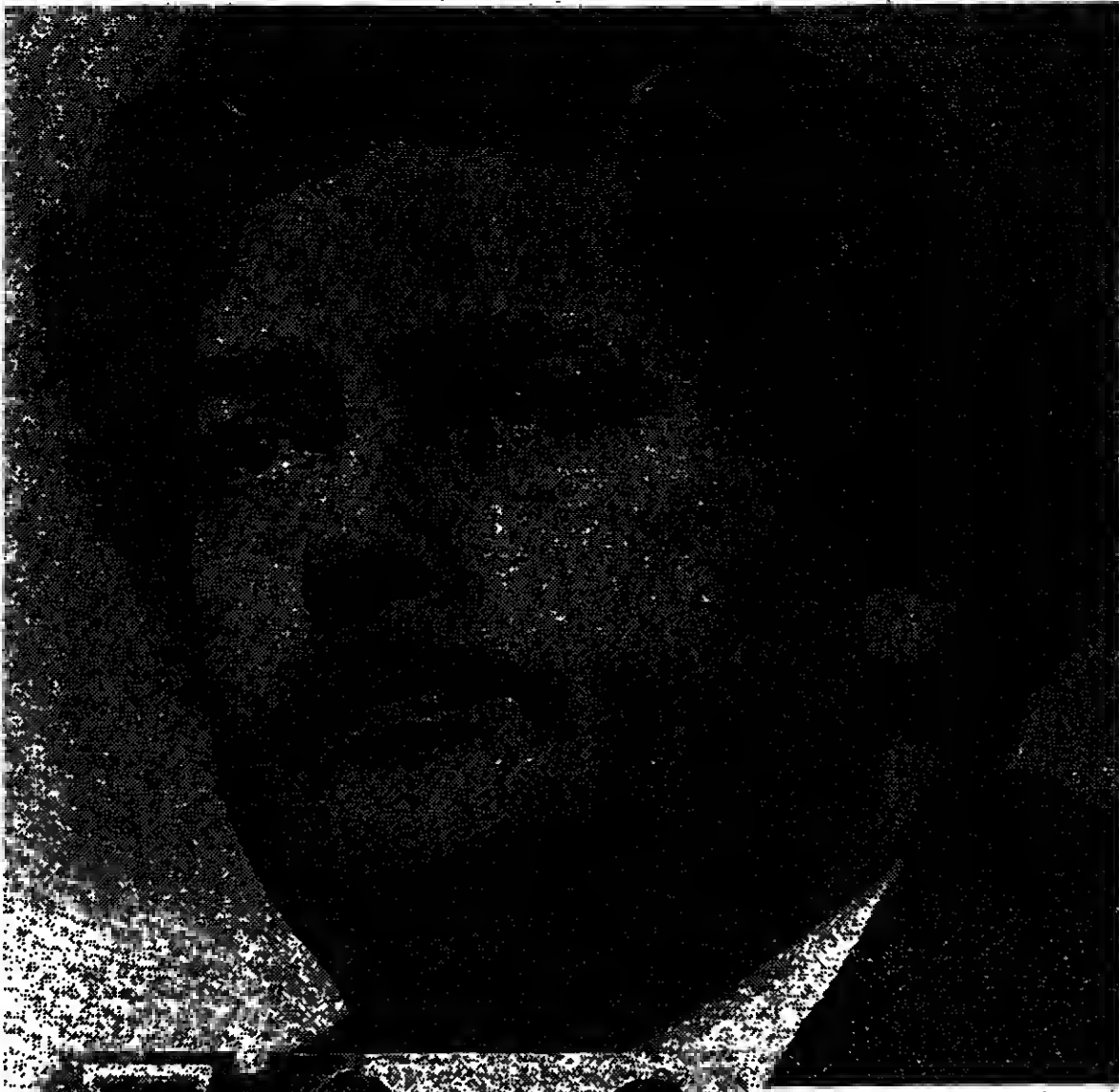
In the political world, Lawson was being attacked from the other side. Policy, it was said, was not too loose, it was too tight - as evidenced by the continuing rise in unemployment.

Caught between the two, Lawson spent a difficult autumn, complicated further by an exceptionally severe public spending struggle. The miners' strike meanwhile debilitated public finances, growth, output and the exchange rate. At the party conference, when Lawson failed to rouse his audience, the party began to mutter.

The party had, of course, muttered long and loud about Sir Geoffrey Howe, as Britain plunged into its worst postwar recession.

But Sir Geoffrey Howe, even at the very worst, could usually count on some long-standing residual affection in the parliamentary party. Lawson, the newcomer, the journalist, the fast-track outsider, the man who does not obviously display affection for the House of Commons, does not have a similar fund of political capital.

He is also, of course, vulnerable on unemployment. He was part of the Treasury that proved over-optimistic in 1979-81 about the likely increase



The Chancellor, Nigel Lawson, in pensive mood (above) and relaxing with his family (left) far from the cares of minding the Exchequer



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HIS LIFE AND  
POLITICAL CAREER

Born: 1932  
Educated: Westminster and Christ Church, Oxford  
1954: 1st class honours Politics, Philosophy and Economics  
1961-63: City Editor, Sunday Telegraph  
1963-64: Speechwriter to Sir Alec Douglas-Home  
1966-70: Editor, Spectator  
1970: Contested Eton and Slough for the Conservatives  
1974: Elected MP for Blaby  
1978: Financial Secretary to the Treasury  
1981: Joined the Cabinet as Energy Secretary  
1983: Chancellor of the Exchequer

in the dole queue. He rashly ventured an opinion during the 1983 election campaign - while other ministers grimly stuck to waffle - that there was "a very good prospect that by the end of the year we will be in unemployment".

There was a brief decline that autumn; without the miners' strike, things might have been a little better in 1984. But the salt of this over-optimism is being rubbed into his wounds today.

And then, of course, there were the two sterling dramas. How much blame for the latest can be shaken off

It is the City's  
suspicion  
that he is a  
touch too clever

on to No 10 and the Prime Minister's Press officer, how much will subside with market hysteria, are yet to be established. It certainly raised a question mark over Lawson's future, exacerbated by a bad parliamentary performance on Monday. On Tuesday, however, the parliamentary verdict seemed to be that he had repaired the damage, but a lot is riding on his second Budget.

His first was a hard act to follow. This pre-Budget period is proving particularly stormy, the intervention of the Prime Minister particularly obvious and counter-productive. Yet it would be unwise to assume that Lawson has shot his bolt.

From Mrs Thatcher's point of view, he has the virtue of conviction; he has also the proven attributes of consistency and coherence. Yet he is not inflexible. Indeed, it is the City's suspicion that he is a touch too clever that has brought some of his difficulties on him. He has the energy to proceed with radical tax reform.

For all Nigel Lawson was closely identified with Mrs Thatcher's early policies, he is genuinely a second-term man in a Cabinet that is beginning to look a little dog-eared. He and his second wife, and their two small children, give some semblance of youth to this administration. He displays a certain invigorating cheek, only Nigel Lawson could be Chancellor, present a lecture entitled "The British Experiment".

Other legacies of his journalistic days include too-tight suits (the waistcoats are fortunately disappearing), for which he cheerfully pleads the poverty of the politician as an excuse; and a certain robust wit. At the *Sunday Telegraph*, he is said to have coined Lawson's law of large companies: that the height of the chairman is inversely related to his profits. No giant, himself, Lawson may yet attempt to prove his parallel for politicians.

Sarah Hogg

moreover...  
Miles KingstonMy family  
ties with  
St Michael

Last weekend I had the strange experience, for the first time in my life, of visiting a place with the same name as me - not Kingston in Hertfordshire, but a village near Chippenham called Kingston St Michael, which the Marks & Spencer branch would have been proud to expect to find traces of ancestors there. In fact, my place with the same name as you is the most unlikely place to provide ancestors, as place-derived surnames were awarded to your forebears when they left the place and arrived somewhere else where they had to be identified.

And sure enough, as I pushed my way through the high gate of Kingston St Michael's church, past a stone house, I was met by a churchwarden who covered, there was not a Kingston to be seen; only ghosts called Sealy, Wick and Piercy. Inside the church there was rather more life; the white of a high-speed drill came from the NE corner, where a sweating churchwarden was struggling to replace a leaking water-pipe before it rotted everything.

"Hello," he said, glad of the distraction, "would you like to visit the bells?"

They are very proud of the bells at Kingston St Michael. In 1779 all the six bells were taken away, returned and rehung, which was about as strenuous an undertaking as removing the clock of Big Ben to get it cleaned and have a Teasdale Festival. After climbing perilous ladders through left and right, we stood on top of the bells and wondered cautiously if the tower was really strong enough to take the weight of these enormous percussion instruments.

"The tower fell down in 1703," said the warden briskly. "This one is very modern, 1725, so there's no danger."

Remembering "Dorothy Sayers's *The Nine Tailors*", in which a man caught in a bell is rung to death by bells, we clambered down again, soon enough and did the tour of the church. Norman arch, nave, 13th century porch, flowers dating from very late 1984... but the quietest thing was the stained glass, east window, donated in 1875 by Squire Progers. The panel depicting the text "Suffer the little children to come unto me" shows Christ receiving children from the smiling image of Mrs Progers, in a habit, holding her head dress, which according to Kilvert's Diary caused intense gossip and indignations at the time.

This I learn from the splendid church history leaflet, which reveals that both Kilvert and John Aubrey, of *Brief Lives* fame, were local lads. Still literary competition this, so we retire to the village pub for a rest. The Jolly Huntsman is a jolly place indeed, full of roaring fire and Sunday drinkers, though the congregation is highly parochial. At the bar I hear a man say: "Now take Marrakesh, which is a typical inland Moroccan town."

The Jolly Huntsman, says the church leaflet, is 18th century, restored in 1890. What it doesn't mention is how often it has been changed since. Down the north end, in the east end, it has been through a Spanish phase, with curly wrought iron and little Moorish arches. The nave is predominantly equestrian with horse brasses, a hunting horn and several fox-chasing prints. The south end is, oddly, devoted to the Battle of Waterloo, while the altar or bar itself is currently going through a cocktail phase and is hung with recipes from everything from Pina Colada to Blue Lagoon.

Odd, isn't it, church renovations are meticulously listed while pub alterations are ignored? Yet the archaeological chronology of pubs is just as interesting, we muse, as we are thrown out at closing time and prepare to perambulate Kingston St Michael. *Comby*: soon, I hope, Kingston Langley and West Kingston.

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Osborne and Little are the men who gave conventional wallpaper a pasting. They transformed it from being just something with which to paper over the cracks into an art form. Among the cognoscenti, their partnership is synonymous with the likes of Turnbull & Asser and Fortnum & Mason.

Now, the kitchen-table industry of the 1960s which was started with just £4000, mostly borrowed from family and friends, is about to go public (on February 7) with an expected Stock Exchange rating of between £5 million and £10 million.

Flaunting the company they have nurtured since its modest inception was no easy decision for 41-year-old brothers-in-law Peter Osborne and Antony Little. They were well aware of the loss of freedom and increased pressures it would entail. In the end, they decided to follow the successful examples of *The Body Shop* whose Stock Exchange listings, according to Osborne, gave it "enhanced status and prestige resulting in escalating sales".

In fact, during their comparatively brief professional lifetime, Osborne and Little have already achieved all three. They have papered the walls of the world's aristocratic and elite from the Sultan of Oman to the regenerated Gleneagles Hotel. Their sales have rocketed from 3000 rolls of wallpaper in 1969 to 385,000 last year, of which exactly one quarter was exported.

And, from making a loss of £1,000 in their first year with a turnover of £23,000, the profit for 1984 was £700,000 and the turnover £4 million.

Such glittering achievements are the result of a combination of inspiration and sheer hard work. "There is no such thing as genius", says design director

Little. "There is just pure determination. I used to believe that you either had it or hadn't but now I realize that everything has to be polished again and again. I'm not a natural perfectionist - I have to work hard at it. I did our first range of wallpapers in about a week. Now it takes me between six months and a year to design a collection."

Even so, that first range won the firm a much-coveted award from the Council of Industrial Design.

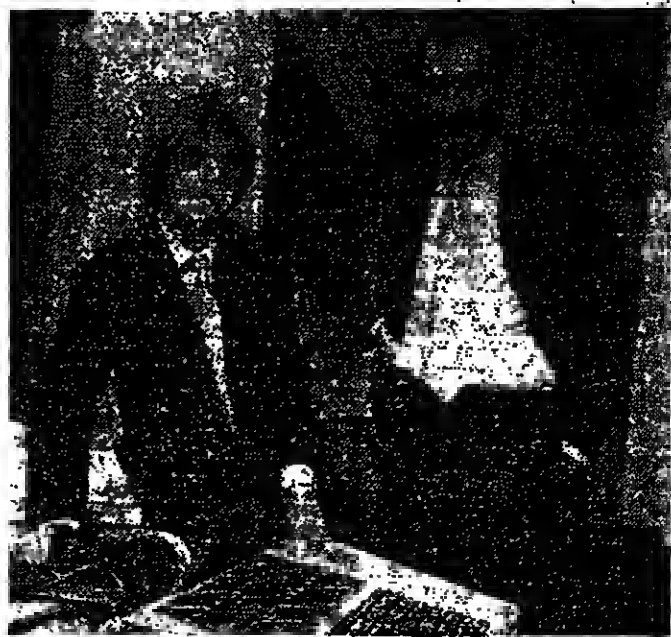
The story began in 1967 when Little, a printer's son from North Wales who was married to Osborne's sister, was working as a freelance interior designer for 1960s-style companies such as Biba.

Osborne, an Oxford-educated baronet, had spent an exorbitantly boring year as a trainee in a merchant bank and was thinking of opening an antiquarian bookshop.

Little agreed to share the rent with him in order to display the wallpaper designs he was screen-printing on his kitchen table. Realizing that there was a huge gap in the wallpaper market which consisted almost entirely of old-fashioned, mass-produced styles, Little was experimenting with bold avant garde designs.

They rented a converted locksmith's shop in Knightsbridge for £27 a week and hand-printed their designs on reels of photographers' backdrop paper which they cut up and sold for 29 shillings a roll.

The COID award resulted in their first commercial breakthrough when a leading American interior designer ordered 500 pattern books and 50 rolls of wallpaper which took them almost a year to produce. The American, who heads a firm called Clarence House, is still



Brothers in big business: Osborne (standing) and Little

their biggest customer as well as acting as their agent in New York.

The inspiration for their elegant and imaginative designs frequently comes from sources as unlikely as the rotting walls of Sicily which Little discovered on holiday, or yellow lichen on grey Cotswold stone.

Yet, they deliberately ensure that there is no obvious Osborne & Little style. "That way you reach a wider market", says Osborne.

With their Stock Exchange debut, they are now considering going into other areas of home furnishings such as bed linen. But, although they have undoubtedly come a long way from the early days when they did everything themselves from packing the wallpaper to checking its quality, their designs are not to everyone's taste.

Prince Charles, for instance, recently turned down all the Osborne & Little samples selected by his interior designer in favour of something a little more conventional.

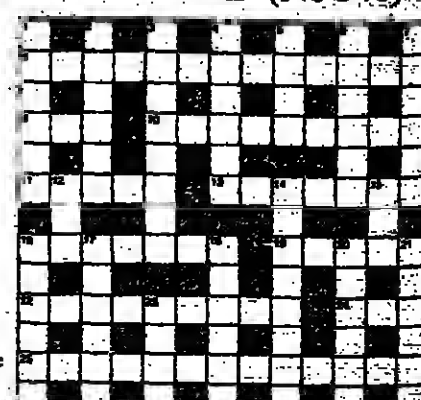
Sally Brompton

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 546)

ACROSS  
8 Proportionate (13)  
9 Publishers' body (11,11)  
10 Diminution (9)  
11 Hunker (5)  
12 Table top frame (7)  
13 Barbed wire (10)  
14 Keen (5)  
15 Rebuild (9)  
16 Canter (13)  
17 Fish stew (13)

DOWN  
1 Message (6)  
2 Leapfrog antelope (6)  
3 Person in custody (8)  
4 With oblique glance (6)  
5 Family table (4)  
6 Craven (6)  
7 Health state (6)  
8 Epoch (3)  
9 Model (3)  
10 Sheltered side (3)  
11 By means of (6)

SOLUTION TO No 545  
ACROSS: 1 Rehash, 4 Beaker, 7 Tare, 8 Vantage, 9 Hoopla, 11 Jolt, 12 Prime Minister, 13 Transfix, 14 Speculant, 15 Dope, 16 Cranky, 17 Decent, 18 Evert, 19 Eric, 20 Marrow, 21 Hovel, 22 Banns, 23 Skirt, 24 Spin, 25 Pinner, 26 Rally, 27 Nomad, 28 Scan, 29 Vent.



17 Monotony (6) 20 Gaudy (6)  
18 Musical salutation (6) 21 Spout (4)  
19 Transfix (6) 22 Banns (4)  
20 Gaudy (6) 21 Spout (4)  
22 Banns (4) 23 Skirt (4)  
23 Skirt (4) 24 Spin (4)  
24 Spin (4) 25 Pinner (4)  
25 Pinner (4) 26 Rally (4)  
26 Rally (4) 27 Nomad (4)  
27 Nomad (4) 28 Scan (4)  
28 Scan (4) 29 Vent (4)



## BOOKS

## A womb with a man's-eye view

Final plans for the formation of the British College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists were apparently arrived at in the course of a shopping party in the fells of North Lancashire in the early 1920s. The symbolic overtones of this two-knickerbocker scene are not missed by Ann Oakley, who misses very little and who goes on to point out that there were nine signatories to the articles of association and all of them were men.

This is a cool and clever book which will annoy a lot of people, particularly those the Lord did not equip for child-bearing, since the history of medical care of pregnant women is also the exposure of men's unrelenting bossism. (Could it really be, as some psychiatrists suggest, that male obstetricians' zeal is the result of an ungratified childhood curiosity to know where babies come from?) Men's urge to interfere anyway is evident new. Even in the 18th century the most confident manuals of advice for expectant mothers tended to have men as authors. Men such as John Grigg, self-defined "Surgeon to Pauper-Charity in Bath and late of His Majesty's Navy" as well as "Practitioner in Midwifery": poor mothers.

Some of these male commentators on female reproduction allowed their scientific detachment to go haywire in, for instance, their colourful and lyrical descriptions of the signs of pregnancy, the reproductive tissues being seen as a "prodigious power of fecundation" proceeding from "the male in coitus". Quite so.

One of the things which may well surprise the reader of this carefully argued, hugely interesting survey is that in the 18th and 19th centuries formal antenatal care was almost non-existent. Attitudes to pregnancy were wonderfully casual. Professional diagnosis was very rarely bothered with in Britain until the 19th century, and then only among the upper classes.

In 1834 even the experts were maintaining that the surest way of diagnosing pregnancy was to wait until the term of nine months was complete. Ann Oakley contrasts this period of faith and hope with a modern climate in which Mother

Fiona MacCarthy

THE CAPTURED WOMB  
A History of the Medical Care of Pregnant Women  
By Ann Oakley  
Blackwell, £17.50

Nature is increasingly mistrusted and the fruits of the womb come under a (mainly male) medical surveillance. The medicalization of pregnancy is an issue with wide implications in relation to the medicalization of life in general and specific relevance to feminism since the fact - a point stressing in its very obviousness - it is only women who get pregnant.

In her account of the past 80 years activity, as male doctors created the profession of obstetrics, she describes a kind of *Boys' Own* world of keenness and adventure. Women's wombs, until then mysterious territory, were explored by means of speculum and endoscope, their contents monitored by ultrasonic sound waves, until the obstetricians knew more about the fetus than the prospective mothers did themselves. All this was very stimulating for the doctors, who were easily betrayed into most tactless phrasology.

There is not much difference after all, claimed Ian Donald, Professor of Midwifery at Glasgow, whose male chauvinistic prose is a red rag to Ma Oakley - "between a focus in utero and a submarine at sea."

The question of why women have by no means all availed themselves of the ante-natal care on offer is a crucial one, and one which has exasperated obstetricians and occupied the hours of many medical research units. Ann Oakley finds the reasons altogether obvious. There has been little relation between what doctors have said ante-natal care ought to consist of and the level of care which has actually materialized. Furthermore, no one has seriously thought of asking women what they want (or do not want) from ante-natal care.

This is an academic book, at an academic price, but it is I think in most ways more humane and more convincing than Edward Shorter's recent more overtly popular *History*

of Women's Bodies. (Maybe this says something, though half-way through the book I might have doubted it was possible, in favour of the actual possession of a womb.) The book is unusually well-designed, through all its complex diagrams and tabulations, and the bibliography, a large one, is exemplary, so good it almost makes the text

itself a bit superfluous, ranging as it does from *The Strength of Imagination in Pregnant Women Examined* (Blondel, 1727) to *Long Distance Telemetry of Fetal Heart Rate from Patients' Homes using Fuhls' Telephone Network* (1983, British Medical Journal). There is a dreadful sense in which this seems to say it all.



## Pole-axed on the ice: a divine stubbornness

Timothy Garton Ash

A FREEDOM WITHIN  
The Prison Notes of Cardinal Wyszyński  
Translated by Barbara Krzywicki-Heyburn and Walter J. Ziemba  
Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95

In September 1953, Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński, the Primate of Poland, was arrested by secret police and imprisoned in a remote monastery. "I had feared that I would never share this honour," which had befallen all my seminary colleagues," Wyszyński notes on the first day of his internment. "They had all experienced concentration camps and prisons." Suddenly and completely cut off from the outside world, guarded by surly secret policemen (one "reminiscent of a Nazi noncom") in bare, freezing quarters, Wyszyński was given a convict's bread and a nun for company. They were to spend almost three years together, before the Primate returned in triumph to Warsaw in the "Polish October" of 1956.

As a record of their outward life his *Prison Notes* are immediately accessible, touching and inspiring. The solitary and middle-aged Cardinal was obviously a little tried by the nun, who spent much time in the kitchen "where there were very loud conversations and laughter with the housekeeper," as he jests testily. "Because my room was right over the kitchen, I could not help hearing all those noises. I often reminded Sister not to waste her time in conversation but to study and read." Yet together they plainly managed to improvise a real religious community, with a regular monastic timetable, intensive prayer, and Masses High and Low. On Easter Sunday, 1955, Wyszyński marks the contrast between the captives "singing and joy," and the grim silence of their captors. "We stopped for a moment at the desk of the guard on duty. We implored him to light off sorrow, since it was not proper for victors to wear such glum faces. And, we added, everything on earth is resurrecting..." He smiled with antiseptic caution.

The Primate himself emerges as a man of divine stubbornness, losing no chance to explain to his guards how his basic rights have been violated, that this was just like a concentration camp, that "You covered my windows with blotting paper so that people would not see the Primate of Poland; but no one will be able to

shield these windows from the world", and so on, until his godless retreat to "consult higher authorities". Yet there is no assurance of earthly victory. Wyszyński's notes are a vivid reminder of how close the Polish Church came to institutional demolition under the double onslaught of Nazism and Stalinism. There was nothing inevitable about its resurrection as the great autonomous institution it is today. In large measure this was Wyszyński's personal achievement, based (as he here records) on a careful historical analysis of the fate of the Churches elsewhere in Eastern Europe, and a fine ethical understanding of the limits of permissible compromise with the powers-that-be. It was the mixture of principled stubbornness and readiness to compromise which made his personal greatness.

Yet the largest part of a *Freedom Within* is neither a contribution to prison literature, nor a slice of political history, but an intimate record of one Christian's spiritual life in a time of trial. The difficulty of reading this spiritual record comes not from the translation, which is very faithful (in all senses), but from the very stuff of the religious experience which it attempts to convey. Someone brought up in the cold light of northern protestantism may just follow him when he talks in prayer to Christ about his enforced poverty. "A week before my arrest you asked me, in such a distinct voice: 'Would you know how to be poor?' I answered then, 'I think so, Christ.' I now answer your question with my daily life." But can we follow him in his passionate, daily conversation with the Virgin Mary, Mary Mother of God and Queen of Poland?

## When Irish Is are writing

Irish history is for Englishmen to remember and Irishmen to forget, but when the history of 20th-century literature comes under scrutiny by future generations, or little green men, or even critics, it will be seen even more clearly than it is now that the Irish short-story in English has a front-desk place among the instruments of fiction. Again and again, in hands more Anglo-Irish than sovereign Irish, on the whole, but always identifiably Milnerian, the means of short-storytelling as potent as the English novel.

"No-one says that but it is true." K Arnold Price's stories, all but one set in Ireland, have a wonderful inevitability: that grace achieved, usually, only by writers whose artistic sensibilities, welded to a capacity for relentless work, are held in balance with their determination to conceal behind a prose as the bridge across calm, reflecting surfaces of deep secrecy barely rippled by nostalgia. You do not have to be Irish to recognise a glimmer Irish eye for sentence structure; Irish ears tuned to degrees of social distinction unimaginable in clumsy English speech; Irish discretion applied as spint to fractured sexual morality; and that, particularly, did not come. Melancholy with Violence.

A sequence of seven stories, linked and locked together in ways reminiscent of the most subtle, serious work of Somerset Maugham and Ross, chart the first-person excitement, observations and slowly drained innocence of a mid-20th-century boy growing up, up, and away from roots in Ireland's small, landless country and the small-mesh network of neighbourhood.

Eight further stories shake a

## FICTION

Gay Firth

THE CAPTAIN'S  
PARAMOURS  
By K. Arnold Price  
Hansham Hamilton, £8.95  
MADE FOR EACH  
OTHER  
By Virginia Ironside  
Hansham Hamilton, £7.95

kaleidoscope, at random through prismatic patterns in an Ireland which, though modern, is still a very long way from anywhere in all directions. They show marriage in suburban Dublin, a thwarted country courtship, the friendship of two girls, one a butterfly tease, the other quiet and conscientious and the last who, loving one and marrying another, "felt the blessed assurance of a long life with her in which she would be a loving faithful wife and he a loving faithful husband."

Sealings in a fashion boutique, confident in their chattering, narcissistic nest, find themselves uncomfortable with even demoralized by a cuckoo colleague, quiet but classy. "Like a good halled every tale had its convincing circumstantial plan, and a due share of elliptical dialogue. The listener's intelligent participation was assumed." (It is not often in this column that an author seems actually to anticipate the reviewer.) Everywhere the tone is gentle, the glance sidelong, the humour poised on a high wire of sorrow.

These stories have their own "achieved" maturity, an achieved equilibrium, as impressive as the imperishable, unburied adult characters and characteristics used to highlight

youth, instability, and confusion. Mrs Mandy, whose shop sells socks, or a new bucket, or paraffin - "everything the dwellers in the village or the townland might need" - has "a voice always so quiet that it didn't break the silence." So has K. Arnold Price. Fearfully, Virginia Ironside grabs death, and grief, and sex, and love by the scruff of their respective necks in a recklessly ambitious, crudely undiplomatic move to make those four superpowers sit down in a novel and sign a treaty of mutual co-operation called *Made For Each Other*. For want of negotiating finesse rather than intensity of purpose, the attempt fails. That is a pity: better jaw, jaw than war, war, but we should not despair, still less call upon Miss Ironside to resign in disgrace.

She has perceived that magnetic attraction and magnetic affinity, which are not the same thing in chemistry, are not the same thing in the chemistry of human response, either. This first-person account of Viola Evert coming to terms, more or less, with that discovery, in the course of an affair embarked upon partly to short-circuit the process of mourning for her dead mother, partly to exorcize the spirit of a mother as much envied as loved, partly in childish defiance of both, shows writing skills which give no cause for alarm or despondency.

The problem, ignored at our peril and to the peril of the novel, is that death, and grief, and sex, and love are more than powerfully human. They share a superhuman common denominator: mystery. In a narrative which leaves so little, so very little - sexual activity to the imagination, there is not much mystery to start with, and not enough - not nearly enough - to go round.

## O Yes, the Führer knew all about it

Philip Howard

HITLER AND THE FINAL SOLUTION  
By Gerald Fleming  
Hansham Hamilton, £12.95

This book demonstrates in laborious and painful detail that from the beginning Hitler wanted to exterminate the Jews of Europe. This might seem to be the plainest fact of a work of supererogation as demonstrating that a black mamba is venomous. It is necessary because the revisionist "functionalist" school of German historians, echoed by David Irving in this country, have been arguing that the Nazis stumbled into genocide by accident rather than ideology. It is easier for these simple souls to believe in look-up than demonic conspiracy.

These black and secret matters are difficult to prove by documents. The Führer used code (cine Sprachregelung) to his closest colleagues, in a masterpiece of camouflage that they enjoyed like wicked schoolboys. But we know that execution and extermination were euphemisms. "Disinfection" meant gassing. And "on orders from the highest level" or on the highest orders meant You Know Who.

The Reader in German at the University of Surrey has assembled the documentary and



oral evidence for the prosecution with remarkable diligence, from sources as impenetrable as the Russian archives at Riga. He writes like cold sweat. His text is repetitions, full of understated quotation, and manages like the Nazis to dress horror in bureaucratic banality. But he is not in business to give us an elegant read. He proves beyond reasonable doubt that Hitler knew jolly well what was going on; that he planned it from the start; and that at some time in the spring or summer of 1941 he gave an oral order for the Final Solution to be put into effect. It needs to be put on the record, because only by convicting the beast in man can we hope to stop it happening again.

This is the second volume of George F. Kennan's three-part study of the Franco-Russian alliance from its making in the early 1890s to its collapse with the Russian revolution. The book demonstrates with complete authority the central paradox of what Kennan calls "an alliance of historic significance, destined to play an important part in determining the alignment of forces in the First World War."

The paradox lay in the flimsy, secretive nature of the alliance, just a military convention confirmed by the two governments, which yet committed the partners to automatic mobilization if Germany, Austria or Italy began to mobilize either singly or collectively. When the Franco-Russian agreement became inter-twined with the Balkan rivalries of the great powers it led to the events of August 1914.

In his introduction Professor Murray, quoting a nine-year-old friend, who divides books into reading books and looking books, finds Burkhardt neither one nor the other.

As a text it has short statements, and sometimes brief essays, containing much that is interesting interspersed with interesting bursts of reference which pin one down like machine-gun fire. As a coffee-table book it lacks sumptuousness; its illustrations are richly informative rather than luxurious. It is certainly not a book for the general reader, but the specialist will find it a splendid source of information. If the specialist is anything but young he will already have studied Burkhardt and his references in German. Even in the English edition everyone needs some Latin and Italian. But it will be hard-going. Burkhardt's references are not easy to follow. For example, it is not always clear whether he is referring to the works of Vasari in the original or to one of the later editions of Vasari's work by Milanesi, or even the nine-volume edition by Gaetano Milanesi.

This is not a straightforward narrative unfolding Italian Renaissance architecture like a broad carpet. Burkhardt classifies the results of his prodigious reading by patrons, clients, dilettanti and master-builders. He passes from them to examples of each and every type of building, repeatedly returning to his fantastic lists of notes and references.

The book has a wealth of illustration in wood-cut, engraving and photograph and the accompanying notes are really interesting. The translation is

## Historian of the old order's demise

David Rees

THE FATEFUL ALLIANCE  
France, Russia and the Coming of the First World War  
By George F. Kennan  
Manchester University, £13

Germany off their backs "while they settled scores with the Austrians and the British."

But the real prime mover of this strange alliance was the enigmatic figure of the Tsar Alexander III. By 1890 the Tsar's long-standing dislike of German influence in his empire had congealed into a belief that a Franco-Russian victory over Germany would mean the disappearance of the Bismarckian empire... "It would break up into a number of small weak states, the way it

used to be." According to the Russian foreign minister, Giers, the Tsar assumed that "when he has taken care of the great Germany, he will be master of the world."

Kennan notes that the shift in Russian policy from an understanding with Germany to an actual alliance with France was already apparent by the summer of 1891. When a French naval squadron visited Cronstadt in July the "general social and political frenzy" was such as the city of Petersburg had never seen and would never see again. The climax of the festivities was reached at a huge gala dinner given by the Tsar at his summer palace at Peterhof. Here Alexander III "electrified Europe by standing bare-headed while the orchestra played the Marseillaise, the marching song... of those who a hundred years before had beheaded a king."

All this gave some political sanction for the military con-

vention, negotiated in secrecy, which was signed in August 1892 and confirmed by the two governments some sixteen months later. But the Tsar's wish for an alliance with France against Germany was no isolated assertion of the imperial will. It was Alexander III who inspired the construction of the Trans-Siberian railway as a means of asserting Russian influence in the Far East. Yet this massive diversion of Russian resources to the East culminated in the Russo-Japanese war - a disaster from which the value of Russia, as an alliance partner for France, was never fully to recover.

Kennan writes that formerly the dynastic wars of the European powers had been fought for limited objectives. But the military thinking behind the Franco-Russian alliance called for total war for total victory, a twentieth-century concept. Such precepts were literally fatal for the Russian autocracy, the eventual showdown based on these ideas initiated the era in which we still live. Hence Kennan's study is a classic case-history of the old order of European diplomacy as it approaches its dissolution.

## Sermons in stones

Gontran Goulden

THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE  
By Jacob Burkhardt  
Edited by Peter Murray  
Sackler & Warburg, £30

fascinating, not as a narrative, but in the succulent tit-bits to be picked from the bones of Burkhardt's scholarship. For example: in a reference to Palladio on the design of staircases, "The tread should extend at least a foot at the most one and a half feet, after eleven or thirteen steps (the number must be odd, so that one begins and ends on the right foot) a rest should be introduced." On Roman patrons: The spendthrift nephew of Pope Pius II introduced the earliest known ventilating system at a princely reception in his palace - admittedly a merely temporary device with bellows.

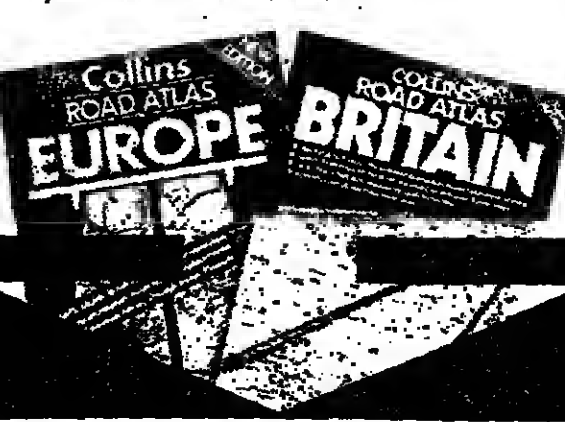
Swiss born and German trained Jacob Burkhardt (1818-1897) laid down solid foundations for his Italian Renaissance art, but was not able to build on them. It had been his intention to fill in the gaps in the history of the Italian Renaissance first published in 1860, first English edition 1878) with volumes on the art of the Renaissance. But this was not to be. He appears to have read so much in the primary and secondary sources on Italian architecture then available that he was not able to produce more than the bones in note form.

New editions and reprints of Burkhardt's work have continued up to 1932. Now Professor Murray has edited, corrected and added to this English edition of his *Italian Renaissance Architecture*. Reading it is still hard work.

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Surprise party

With applications for the post of general secretary due by tomorrow, Labour party headquarters are again awash with rumour, intrigue and manipulation. At the eleventh hour, Roy Hattersley and the forces of the right have persuaded Post Office Engineers leader Brian Stanley to throw his hat in the ring. Alex Ferry, right-wing leader of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, has meanwhile decided not to stand, realizing he cannot win. The application of General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union research officer Larry Whitty is expected at Walworth Road today. Scottish secretary Helen Liddell filled out her forms on Tuesday. After a call yesterday from his backer Ken Livingstone, who has been canvassing the left, Peter Hain has dropped out. Neil Kinnock's new technology adviser, Alan Thomas, has also withdrawn, standing in his place is the more overtly political ASTMS national negotiator Roger Ward, who has been working with Thomas on computerising Walworth Road. Rumours also abound of approaches from "a mystery businessman". There's still time to join the fun. In 1982 Jim Mortimer, the outgoing general secretary, decided to stand with only 36 hours to go.

Readers, discerning a suddenly sharpened focus in *Belfast Telegraph* leaders might put it down to New Year staff redeployments: the leader writing team now comprises Messrs White, Black and White. They have to clear their expenses through a Mr Grey.

### Moor means less

Cornwall County Council may be about to return unopened a gift from Prince Charles. To celebrate the birth of his second son, the Prince in his capacity as Duke of the Duchy of Cornwall presented the council with Kit Hill on Bodmin Moor. Councilors were appropriately moved by his generosity until they learnt that the hill needs £37,000 spent immediately on scrub clearing and fencing, and will cost nearly £12,000 a year to keep up. "What gets up my nose", exulted Liberal councillor John Scannell, "is that the Duchy retains the mineral rights."

### Upshot

The plummeting pound seems to have escaped the Prime Minister's notice. To Liberal MP David Alton, concerned that each cent fall adds £40m to the cost of Trident, she wrote on Tuesday that the weapons would cost £3.7bn. She quotes an exchange rate for the pound of \$1.53.

### Many questions

Tories on the Foreign Affairs Select Committee who were keen to conclude its all-too-revealing investigation into the Belgrano sinking have been outmanoeuvred. Labour members of the committee yesterday put down a formal motion asking for further questions to be sent to Mrs Thatcher. Lord Lewin, Michael Heseltine and others about inconsistencies in evidence. Had the Tories opposed the motion it would have to have been recorded in the final report and they would have been vulnerable to accusations of blocking the investigation of legitimate issues. Thus prolonged, the investigations may now have to consider a whole new can of worms: evidence thrown up at the Ponting trial later this month.

BARRY FANTONI



### Iron to gilts

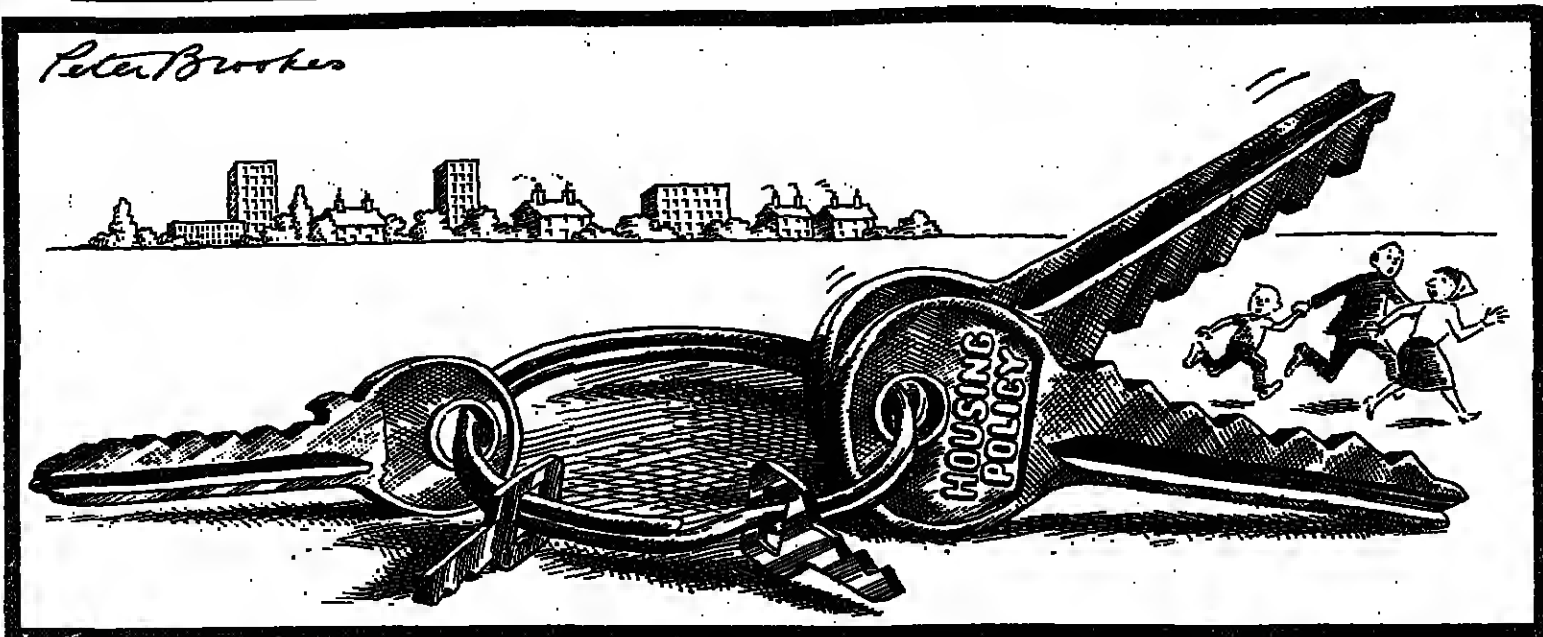
While the Duchess of Bedford still has her *Times* ironed every morning I hear that her son, Didier Millinaire, manager of Burkes, has begun a new tradition. His secretary's first task each morning is to post *The Times* portfolio numbers on the notice board for the convenience of the club's members.

### Indian summer

President Reagan is doubtless chuffed that India's new Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, has agreed to visit the US in June. He should temper his delight, however. Diplomatic sources tell me that Moscow has beaten Washington to the post and that Gandhi is to visit the Soviet capital in April. The reason Moscow has not interrupted the news is the usual one: no one knows if President Chernenko will be well enough to receive him.

PHS

## Neil McIntosh points to a ready-made basis for more and better housing



Britain's housing stock is deteriorating and housing investment is appallingly low. Yet somehow the Government has not suffered as a result of its housing failures. Indeed it sees housing policy as a vote winner. The reasons are many, but at least one is that the Government's opponents fight with one hand tied behind their backs.

The Government's performance has been woeful not because it wants to see a switch from public to private investment in housing but because it has failed to create the conditions in which that can happen. Conversely the arguments of many Government critics have been weakened by insistence that salvation can only come through state investment in largely state-managed housing. This has the added result of creating a sterile debate in which every initiative, labelled either "public" or "private", meets with strong opposition. Since continuity is a prerequisite to attracting new private investment, no progress is made.

People on low, variable incomes need to rent. Home ownership is unlikely to be available to them, particularly in the high-cost south. But rented accommodation, a form of tenure which ought to combine easy access and mobility, has been made less convenient, more expensive and more difficult to find.

This is partly explained by tendencies of successive governments to heap on homeowners more and more financial privileges. Systems of tenure cannot exist in isolation and every new government inducement to buy a house makes renting one less attractive. But pressure on the private rented sector has also meant that renting has become almost synonymous with council housing.

Television can cross borders, but should it be able to do so? The European business community is beginning to apply pressure to free the barriers which currently prevent some television material, principally advertising, from crossing national boundaries.

These restrictions are dizzyingly arbitrary. Italy forbids television advertisements for pet foods or boats. France will not tolerate commercials for margarine or the press. Britain, through the Independent Broadcasting Authority, keeps marriage brokers, undertakers and a number of "unacceptable products" off the screen. Belgium and Denmark ban advertising altogether.

The EEC Commission in Brussels wants to iron out these differences. It would like to develop a common market in television and end practices such as Belgium's of trying to force cable television operators to black out commercials shown on programmes taken from other countries. In time, the commission hopes, pan-European channels would develop, creating not only a wider market for EEC goods but also a new European identity.

The commission's aim is to establish a common code. A total ban on tobacco advertising would probably be included, along with a partial ban on some forms of advertising alcohol. But all member governments except Luxembourg oppose such a code.

But no new action by the EEC may be needed to remove many products and services from such blacklists. In a legal opinion prepared by two British barristers,

## Bias that keeps people from the door

The rejection of private investment in housing helps no one - least of all the homeless. Tenants are not interested in whether funds to build and improve their homes come from the state or the private sector. They are interested only in a good service and the level of rent.

The traditional assumption has been that private landlords do not provide a good service. But the description "private landlord" could mean any of four things: resident landlords, small commercial landlords, commercial institutions or non-profit-making private bodies such as housing associations.

Resident landlords operate largely outside the Rent Act and should continue to do so. The relationship between landlord and lodger/tenant is a personal one and any move to suggest otherwise would simply discourage such lettings. A simple, inexpensive and sure way of regaining possession is regrettably the only way of retaining this useful although marginal source of accommodation.

Small commercial landlords should not play a large part in our future housing plans. Their management record is poor but the main argument against them, in a situation where consensus is important,

is that the public image typified by Rachman rules them out, however unfairly in many cases. As long as institutions, profit-making or otherwise, are willing to be policed in some way, the element of competition which a new type of commercial landlord could provide would be worth encouraging. But housing associations already provide a fully operational, largely non-controversial network capable of managing housing. At their best, they demonstrate the nonsense of assuming that public or collective enterprise must be the prerogative of the state. All they need is to be weaned away from their present complete dependence on public funds.

At present the associations are largely funded by the Housing Corporation's £700m budget. That money could become the bedrock that could persuade private institutions to put their risk capital into rented housing. If Housing Corporation funds could be thus multiplied the existing council sector, much of which desperately needs investment, could then be improved.

Some of these suggestions have been proposed within the Department of the Environment. The Treasury has responded coolly, largely because it is obsessed with the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, and it is also reported to have cited the difficulty of getting sufficient bipartisan agreement.

It is true there are those for whom no investment is preferable to private investment. We can no longer afford to let those negative voices prevail.

The author is a former director of Shelter.

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Another encouraging sign is the growth of cable and satellite technologies. Television which crosses national boundaries is on the increase and attempts to isolate viewers are increasingly futile.

Above all, the demand for freedom of information and expression is gaining ground. It will not be stopped and, when frustrated, will increasingly turn to the European courts for relief. There are two such cases pending. The Court of Human Rights is to decide soon whether or not a West German veterinarian's rights to free expression were violated when a professional body penalized him for publishing his clinic in a newspaper interview.

The second, at the EEC Court of Justice in Luxembourg, will soon decide whether French law can force French filmmakers to withhold their products from video cassettes for a full year while cinemas have a chance to show them.

If both are resolved with reference to Article 10 it will be a sharper instrument than ever before and well on its way towards becoming Europe's long-overdue approximation of America's First Amendment. Many restrictions on the press and free speech (even if the speaker is a civil servant) could then begin to fall away.

This evolution of Article 10, in step with a new multiplicity of television channels, is in my view the most exciting development in communications today.

The author is editor of *Connections*, communications newsletter of The Economist.

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## Free speech for the hard sell

Tomorrow the business world discusses EEC plans for 'television without frontiers'.

Brenda Maddox outlines the arguments

Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights - signed by Britain and 17 other countries - gives grounds for striking down many of the restrictions.

The article states: "Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers."

This guarantee, in the opinion of Anthony Lester, QC and David Pannick, a Fellow of All Souls, covers statements made through the media inviting commercial transactions in other words, advertising.

In western democracies with market economies, they argue, "the free flow of such information is vital to the ability of consumers to make informed decisions about the various products and services available to them."

There is nothing obscure in the wording of Article 10. It states clearly that the only restrictions that may be placed on freedom of expression are narrow and specific: those necessary for the protection of national security, health, morals, the reputation of others or of information received in confidence.

These do not seem to leave room for all the grounds on which most EEC countries restrain their commercials, such as a wish to protect cultural

integrity, the stability of public-service broadcasting, the financial viability of the press, or simply the old media against the new.

Deciding whether or not individual rights under the Convention have been violated by national laws is the job of the European Court of Human Rights at Strasbourg. If this court continues to broaden its interpretation of Article 10, and strike down excessive restrictions on freedom of speech, as it did when it upheld *The Sunday Times* against the British government in the thalidomide case, then it may not be long before restrictions on commercials are challenged. Britain could once again find itself in the dock.

There are signs, however, that freedom of commercial speech in Europe may be an idea whose time has come. One was a decision last June by the US Supreme Court that the State of Oklahoma could not require cable systems to black out commercials for wine on the television programme they carried from outside the state. The Federal Communications Commission rule requiring the unimpeded flow of information between the states, the court ruled, took precedence over Oklahoma's law banning advertisements for alcohol. This opinion, although American, will have an impact on the EEC, which is trying to develop laws on federal-state relations.

According to *The Handbook of Emergency Toxicology* by Dr Sidney Kaye, the organic group of thiocyanates are much more toxic than the inorganic group, and methyl thiocyanate is the most toxic of all. The book suggests that the organic thiocyanates probably convert to cyanide inside the body, and urges treatment for those poisoned by them "as for cyanide".

There is a further suggestion made by scientists in Bhopal, which will need experimental testing. It has already been disclosed by the head of India's Council for Indus-

trial and Scientific Research that the disaster was triggered by water somehow entering the tanks where methyl isocyanate was stored. This produced heat of such a temperature that water sprayed on the tanks turned instantly to steam, and their concrete cladding was shattered by the increase in temperature, allowing the gas to escape.

Such heat could also have reached a temperature at which the methyl isocyanate breaks up into its constituent parts. When the tanks blew up, they could have sprayed a lethal umbrella of pure hydrocyanic acid over the sleeping citizens, which would have been inhaled simply as cyanide.

If the only threat from methyl isocyanate is a corrosive effect, then inundation is relatively easy to survive - wet towels, damp spray, staying indoors, and inactivity all help corrosion of the corneas of victims' eyes, for example, has soon been cured.

But if the gas has reacted inside the body, then long-term effects could be considerable. And if residents are to be subjected to the hazards of one of the deadliest and quickest-acting poisons known, a vast new array of controls will be needed.

In the words of one of the medical experts now in Bhopal: "If methyl isocyanate is not absorbed in the blood, why did they die?"

Michael Hamlyn

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Another encouraging sign is the growth of cable and satellite technologies. Television which crosses national boundaries is on the increase and attempts to isolate viewers are increasingly futile.

Ronald Butt

## Mr Lawson's real mistake

The case against Mr Nigel Lawson is not that he was wrong to approve the sharp rise in interest rates. It is that he took unjustified risks by gambling against any rise at all. Before the publication of the most recent money supply figures, there were already clear indications that a rise in interest was being signalled in the money markets.

There was also, however, a strong suspicion (though the authorities deny it) that the Bank of England, under Treasury inspiration, was throwing its weight against a rise in the belief that, when the money supply figures were published, the pressure for higher interest would subside because the money supply figures would be better than was generally expected.

They were, but confidence was not restored by their publication nor later by the first interest rate rise last week. The government either had to accept a quite extraordinarily steep plunge in the pound, with its inflationary consequences, or try to intervene against it by uselessly spending reserves, or accept the logic of the market and a still higher rate of interest. It rightly did the last. Furthermore, it was now vital to make it quite clear that the Chancellor was acting without reluctance and was not hoping to fly in the face of financial realities in order to nudge interest rates down for political purposes. Mr Lawson therefore also invoked the reserve precaution of reactivating minimum lending rate.

Yet the need for this gesture and the continuing fragility of the market's reassurance after it are the evidence we have of the essential nature of Mr Lawson's miscalculation. With his disdainful attitude towards public reactions, the Chancellor had failed to present his policy convincingly and had also conveyed the impression of unwillingness to put the problems under close scrutiny in the hope that they would go away.

In theory, of course, the policy was simple and comprehensible. The government would use interest rates if the money supply or other domestic factors indicated that this was necessary to contain inflation, but would not encourage interest rate increases as a response to strictly external pressures, of which the pressure of the dollar on all currencies is the most formidable. This did not mean that it was prepared to see the pound drop to any level because of the strength of the dollar. It was rather a reflection of the government's confidence that the state of the economy was essentially sound enough to ensure that the fall would not be unstoppable, but would rather be self-correcting.

The money supply was not out of hand; the growth prospect for the coming year was promising at 3 per cent, and even if productivity is less here than among our principal competitors it is much improved. Why should the markets not take these points?

That the Chancellor would be so confident that the markets would see things his way without more persuasive explanation of the government's thinking, and his failure to respond more sensitively to the evident signs that their suspicions were getting out of hand are surprising in a former financial journalist. He should have been aware of what people were thinking and saying and of their suspicions and how should have acted sooner

to counteract them. There was, for instance, the suspicion that Mr Lawson wanted a cheaper pound because the resulting increase in oil revenues would help him to cut taxes.

By some quite illogical twist of thinking, moreover, the government's unwillingness to support the pound by spending reserves some how became translated into the idea that it would not support it by using interest rates. Again the perfectly sensible position that the government has no fixed level in its mind at which it will defend the pound (how could it have, without restoring exchange controls?) was transmuted into the idea that there was no level at which the government would support the pound.

Those whose job it is to move money around the world tend (as Mr Lawson himself put it in the Commons on Tuesday) to play safe and they have not been deaf to the talk of more public spending in a country where inflation is still at 5 per cent. He might have added, and no doubt he thought, that the market was probably all the more inclined to take this seriously because it is increasingly being heard from Conservatives. Besides, money supply anxieties were not likely to be allayed by one month's figures and, as the Chancellor has himself admitted in the Commons, there was a feeling that the government might have lost its willingness to maintain its anti-inflation policy.

But whose fault was that? If there was a misapprehension, it was the Chancellor's job to see that it was removed before there was real trouble. The truth is that the markets have been quick to see to the heart of the government's dilemma, which is this. In the last Parliament, the government won support for its anti-inflation policies because it believed that in this Parliament the conquest of the worst of inflation would bring recovery and a fall in unemployment.

Now we have growth, but unemployment remains intractable and if the Chancellor can resist the call for more public spending this evokes the fear that the government is evading the stimulus of tax cuts. Instinctively the markets also understand that if a precipitously cheapened pound is inflationary, high interest rates may menace the growth which is a political imperative for the government. It is small wonder that the suspicion grew that a Chancellor so keen to bring down the rate of interest down might fear in any circumstances to put it up.

There is now a new official rationale for explaining that higher interest rates will not imperil growth. Interest rates went up last July but improved growth was not checked. Bringing interest down is said to be less important than it was a few years ago because companies are now much more profitable. Yet nobody can seriously doubt that the Government has been caught in a pincer between the pressures on the pound from the US, which makes defence through an interest rate increase necessary and the political need to prevent the level of interest from damaging recovery. In such an awkward tactical situation it was essential that the government should make its priorities clear. The Chancellor's basic policies have not been wrong but he has made their pursuit more difficult by failing to make his thinking clear quickly enough, and expecting the markets to read the facts to suit his way of thinking.

John P. Harris

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Another encouraging sign is the growth of cable and satellite technologies. Television which crosses national boundaries is on the increase and attempts to isolate viewers are increasingly futile.

Above all, the demand for freedom of information and expression is gaining ground. It will not be stopped and, when frustrated, will increasingly turn to the European courts for relief. There are two such cases pending. The Court of Human Rights is to decide soon whether or not a West German veterinarian's rights to free expression were violated when a professional body penalized him for publishing his clinic in a newspaper interview.

The second, at the EEC Court of Justice in Luxembourg, will soon decide whether French law can force French filmmakers to withhold their products from video cassettes for a full year while cinemas have a chance to show them.

If both are resolved with reference to Article 10 it will be a sharper instrument than ever before and well on its way towards becoming Europe's long-overdue approximation of America's First Amendment. Many restrictions on the press and free speech (even if the speaker is a civil servant) could then begin to fall away.

## Sour, weak whine of the region

Somewhere in Languedoc Good news for boarse protesters: if you feel like a sojourn in the sun there may be a home for you down in this part of the south of France where the wine flows freely.

We have a local Protester. Officially he's a *viticulter*, or grape-grower, but he has only a tiny vineyard producing a small output of poorish wine. Protestingly, usually called *manifesting* here, takes up most of his time.

He started off as a plonk-manifester and that is still his main manifestation, with recent diversions. He and his boys want the region to carry on producing lakes-full of sour weak wine, for two overt reasons. One, they claim that you can make as much money from surplus wine, withdrawn from the market to be thrown away, as you can from good wine. Two, it's good for the boys and anyone who says it isn't is a vile reactionary who ought to be made to drink it. The covert reason is that contented people don't make revolutions or do much manifesting: *viticulter* with thousands of gallons of unwanted wine in their hands are not contented but miserable.

The Protester first hit the news some years ago, when a wine-tanker bringing decent Italian wine tied up at the port of Sète. Before it could be pumped ashore to give a bit of body to the unsaleable stuff, the Protester and the boys were on the board, manifesting by fouling the wine with diesel oil. The authorities let him alone and he leapt to fame.

He has met the president, distributed aerosol paint-cans, and orated. Manifesters have derailed trains, blocked motorways, sabotaged wine-vats, captured opposition wine-tankers on the roads and poured their contents into the ditch, manifested at Strasbourg and Brussels and other places where people try to think what to do with the surplus wine, and obliterated sign-posts to annoy tourists.

There's plenty to protest about. Not long ago I was taken to task as a Briton, on the grounds that the natives in Dublin and Limerick are

groaning under my jackboot, forbidden to leave their beleaguered isle, their books censored by Mrs Thatcher, their priests driven underground, their mother tongue banned.

The boys are all for the mother tongue. Older locals here can speak what they call *le patois* as well as French. It's other name is Occitan, a pleasant language. The manifesters can't speak it at all well, but they study the grammar and compose songs in it: protest songs, about how miserable everybody is. An able non-manifesting singer recently gave a concert in this language in our village square of his own songs. Afterwards an old village lady said to me: "Oh, wasn't it nice! So cheerful, not a bit like those awful Occitan people!"

The Protester has just been reported in the local press, saying that Spanish Basque separatists would receive a warm welcome down here from him and his boys. "Our decision," said he, "is Occitan. It is a logical consequence of our meetings with the Basques of Spain, the Piedmontese of Italy and the Peloponnese of Greece. . . . I didn't know about the Piedmontese or the Peloponnese, but there's always something to manifest about if you're keen."

Diggers-up of dual corpses, poisoners of chocolate bars, think of Independent Rutland, Free Dorset, Autonomous Caves! Reawaken, ye oppressed Scots, Welsh, Cornish and Manx, practice your rudeness-drill! When you have won your spurs and appeared on TV, come down here for a holiday. It sounds as though it's free.

It's true that the Protester says you mustn't go in for any political or trade union activity, but, perhaps that's just for the record, and you can always keep your head in by felling a plane tree to block a road. Don't let me up anyone off the Languedoc. It's jolly nice down here, there are really very few local manifesters, and normally one never notices them except for the graffiti. And those do get cleaned off.

Great hopes today's meetings and Kyriophanes. Denies, which for almost the 1914, the hope towards a solution.

According to Turkish Cypriots already a draft of a new leaders is already in the air. It is a new draft of a new leaders is already in the air. It is a new draft of a new leaders is already in the air.

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## REGIME ON TRIAL

It is too soon to say whether the trial of the killers of Father Popieluszko will end as a "cover-up", but even if it does, the facts that have been uncovered in the course of the cover-up repay close attention. The testimony of the four accused has been confused, contradictory and incomplete - under Polish law they are not obliged to answer any questions, and they are not under oath. None the less, they have painted a chillingly convincing picture of the world of the secret police in a Communist state.

In some respect this recalls nothing more than a Mafia "single family". Indeed, it appears that there is a family tradition in the Polish security services, with son following father into the profession. The police "family" looks after its own. Special passes give secret policemen, like Fr Popieluszko's killers, immunity from all the usual regulations. They hold themselves above the law. Corruption is rife, as in the Mafia. The defendants have reported conversations about the possibilities of framing, blackmail and kidnapping, as if these were the everyday stuff of police business.

With police like this, who needs gangsters? As in Mafia trials, the question most unlikely to be answered is: who is the Godfather?

If the Communist system was working as it is meant to work, then the Godfather should be a top party leader. But in Poland over the past few years, the Communist system has not been working as it is meant to. The imposition of martial law was proof of this. Subsequently, the general level of state violence has sharply increased. According to the independent Helsinki Committee, more than fifty people have died as a result of police violence since December 1981. A properly functioning totalitarian regime, like neighbouring Czechoslovakia, does not have to resort to such Latin American methods; it has an adequate array of less crude instruments of coercion. General Jaruzelski has relied on physical coercion more directly than his predecessors.

Yet he has probably endeavoured to reduce this reliance, and to do so by negotiating with the Church. The more he can depend on the Church to appeal for calm, the less he needs to

depend on tear gas and baton charges. Primat Glemp has been prepared to go some way down this political road with the General but he has exacted a price. The Church is stronger than it has been at any time since the war, and many clergymen feel, like Father Popieluszko, that they have a moral duty to use this strength to sustain the values of Solidarity.

What has emerged most clearly from the courtroom over the last fortnight is the fury of the whole Fourth Department of the Interior Ministry - a department devoted to controlling and combating the Church - at not being able to act against these so-called radical priests. In their diatribes against the Church, the defendants, all of the Fourth Department, spoke with genuine hatred. It is a sobering thought that one of them was responsible for security arrangements during the Pope's visit in 1983. If Gen. Jaruzelski is to regain any serious confidence with the Church, let alone with public opinion, he will have to abolish the Fourth Department. Otherwise, people may continue to take him for the Godfather.

## CELEBRATING THE TRUTH

There are three main reasons why the Government is right to change its mind and to celebrate the 40th anniversary of VE Day. First, millions of British citizens fought at home and abroad to make this victory possible. They expect their government to celebrate the culmination of a just and popular war which brought to Western Europe the peace we still enjoy. If it was right to commemorate D-Day how can it be wrong to commemorate VE Day?

Baroness Young had originally suggested that there might be a problem with interpreting the role of our then ally, the Soviet Union. But even Pravda called the British government's first decision "strange". The Soviet Union is already gearing up for its own massive celebration of the defeat of Nazi Germany, with its own peculiar interpretation of that defeat. The Soviet press is claiming that this was entirely the work of the Red Army: the part of the Western Allies is barely mentioned. Marshall Stalin is making a comeback for the occasion. A straight line is being drawn from Hitler's mad aggression to the so-called "revanchism" of our present ally, the Federal Republic of Germany.

This is the second reason why

the British government is right to organize its own commemoration: not to match distortion with distortion, one-sided propaganda with other-sided propaganda, nationalism against nationalism, but to set the record straight. In Britain, unlike the Soviet Union, the past cannot simply be rewritten by order of the State, to suit the political needs of the moment. What we need is an act of remembrance which pays fair tribute to the Soviet Army's immense contribution to defeating Hitler in the years 1941-45, but which also recalls the years of the Nazi-Soviet non-aggression pact that preceded it - years when we stood alone - and the years of bitter disappointment which succeeded it, as Stalin ruthlessly imposed Soviet rule on the European lands he had "Liberated". One does not need to be a diplomat to understand that this might offend some Russian sensibilities. But to use the occasion solely to recall what united us with the Soviet Union then, perhaps as a symbolic boost to the arms talks, and not what divides us now, would be worse than not to celebrate at all. Only the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth will do justice to this anniversary.

Finally, we have been urged to

consider West German sensibilities. But no less an authority than Manfred Rommel, son of the field marshal and an outstanding Christian Democratic mayor of Stuttgart, has said that this is a misunderstanding. In fact, the West Germans have quite as much reason as any of us to celebrate VE Day - for it brought them peace and liberation from Nazi tyranny. The unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany was the pre-condition for Germany's western rebirth as the stable, liberal and prosperous democracy which it is today. The forthcoming anniversary is therefore the perfect occasion for us to refute the absurd Soviet charges of West German revanchism, of a continuity from Hitler's militarism to the Kohl government's democratic commitment to NATO or from Nazi designs on Eastern Europe to Bonn's Ostpolitik.

VE-Day is central to our understanding of Britain's role in Europe and of Europe's view of Britain. It is an occasion for celebrating, together with our West German allies, what has been achieved in Western Europe since the defeat of Nazism. And it is an occasion for reflecting, with a glance at Eastern Europe, how much has still to be achieved.

## A BREAKTHROUGH IN CYPRUS

Great hopes are vested in today's meeting between President Kyprianou and Mr Rauf Denktaş, which seems to offer, for almost the first time since 1974, the hope of real progress towards a solution of the Cyprus conflict.

According to both UN and Turkish Cypriot sources there is already a draft agreement for the two leaders to sign, though admittedly it is to the nature of a framework agreement, leaving much detail to be settled by working parties and/or in further meetings before actual implementation can begin. The Greek Cypriots, who have been put on the defensive by some unexpected Turkish concessions, say they do not know of any one document that is ready for signature. According to them there are actually four documents on the table: a draft agenda first put forward by the UN Secretary-General back in September and only slightly modified since; two "non-papers" (the UN's latest semantic *trouville*) submitted to the Secretary-General by the two sides and containing the substantive concessions; and a paper drawn up at a lower-level meeting in Geneva last week which simply tabulates the points already agreed in earlier phases of the intercommunal talks.

The Secretary-General has publicly given credit to the Turkish Cypriot side for "its favourable reaction to all elements of my presentation", whereas last spring he was blaming Mr Denktaş for sabotaging the previous UN initiative. The Turks have suddenly become the "good guys" of the diplomatic scene, which means that the pressure is now heavily on the Greek side to abandon their remaining sticking points. The Greek Cypriots know this, and are well aware that it will be

difficult for them to leave New York without signing an agreement of some sort. They are also aware that if the present process comes unstuck they are unlikely to be offered better terms later.

President Kyprianou has apparently succeeded in convincing even those Greek Cypriot parties which opposed him until now that an acceptable agreement is within reach, thereby securing a national consensus on his negotiating strategy. No less important, he has won the support of the Papadopoulos government in Athens, which was previously contemptuous of the intercommunal negotiation process and sought instead to internationalize the conflict. He has also sought the support of Western governments, particularly the British, for his plea that the agreement should include a "Turkish guarantee" which would amount in practice to a charter for future Turkish invasions, but must if it is to have any point at all provide for the withdrawal of Turkish troops at an early stage.

The first request is unrealistic. As the Greek Cypriots themselves admit, geography provides a de facto guarantee to the Turkish Cypriots inasmuch as it is practically impossible to stop Turkey intervening if at any time she considers either her own strategic interests or the security of the Turkish Cypriot community to be in peril. On balance it is probably better to have this possibility codified in a treaty than to leave it to the discretion of Turkey's political and military leaders.

The most the Greek Cypriots can reasonably hope for is to balance it with guarantees from other powers against unwarranted Turkish intervention - though after Britain's lamentable performance in 1974 it may well be asked which other power

could be relied upon to take effective action if it was called for.

But to insisting on the withdrawal of Turkish troops Mr Kyprianou surely has a valid point. The Turks have always maintained their troops were there only until a solution to the intercommunal conflict could be found. The history of the last quarter-century hardly suggests that the presence on the island of either Greek or Turkish troops, whether official or unofficial, can be regarded as a contribution to constitutional order.

By contrast the role of UNFICYP, the UN force, has been acknowledged as valuable by both sides. Many Turkish Cypriots by now heartily wish the Turkish army would go home. Perhaps those who still feel they would be "oafish" without it would accept a strengthened UNFICYP with a significant contingent from other Muslim countries.

The object of the talks must be to achieve a solution enabling Turkish Cypriots to feel secure, as citizens of the new federal republic, without having to rely on the presence of a large occupying force which makes it impossible for their Greek compatriots to feel secure; and a solution allowing sufficient freedom of movement between the two zones for there to be a hope that the two communities will with time grow together rather than continue to grow apart as they have been doing in the last thirty years. If such a solution is on offer the Greek Cypriots should jump at it however unjust the share of power and of territory may seem to them. The unity of the island, on which they are not only the majority but economically the more advanced and the more dynamic community, must surely be their overriding long-term interest.

## Changing guard at the Palace

From Mr Robert Elliott

Sir, Presumably Household guards' officers will continue to wear their offensive and highly decorative uniforms when on ceremonial guard duties. Why then should our guardsmen be armed with such an obviously offensive and hideous weapon as the new rifle, the SA 80 (report, January 11), when they share those same duties?

We British do not need to be cowed with a high-powered machine gun to behave ourselves when we are out sightseeing, a smile and a friendly push from an unarmed bobby is usually enough. A friendly clout with a truncheon is acceptable when we know we are being deliberately hostile.

In the same way a rifle used as a harrier - much like a quarterstaff or a halberd - or, at worst, as a threatening spear, is the kind of remonstrance we recognize we deserve when, by accident or design, we step over the guards' picket lines.

For this purpose the new rifle is both absurd and grossly over-maintaining: even the SLR was a mistake. The short Lee-Enfield Mark IV was ideal and strangely reassuring, and infinitely better as an adjunct to formal drill. It was also full of honour.

While our servicemen must have the very best weaponry when we go to war, and be superbly expert in its use, when we are at peace, then I believe we would all prefer them to look smart, steady, and friendly and in no way like some totalitarian zombies who are ready to mow us down in swaths should we so much as cuss a snook at the Leader.

Yours faithfully,

R. ELLIOTT,

11 Cragfields Avenue,

Paigley,

Renfrewshire,

January 12.

From Mr Martin Spira

Sir, Why should the guards' ceremonial uniform and drill be accompanied by the latest rifle used on active service? Would it not be more logical to return to muzzling, loading muskets for these traditional exercises?

Yours faithfully,

MARTIN SPIRA,

11 Cragfields Avenue,

Paigley,

Renfrewshire,

January 13.

## Teaching the young

From Mr Gerard F. Spston

Sir, Digby Anderson's article (January 9) appears to suggest that the primary school teacher's unique task is to teach children to read and write, the quicker the better.

What of the child's social and emotional development? What is society expected to do with children capable of passing A-level examinations years before they are mature enough to cope with university or even sixth form life?

At which a primary school child acquires knowledge of all kinds, not just academic, is determined as much by its natural growth, physical and mental, as by the efficiency of its teachers.

By ignoring these fundamental aspects of the question, Digby Anderson casts doubts not so much on the cost-effectiveness of the country's teachers as on that of the Social Affairs Unit.

Yours faithfully,

GERARD F. SPSTON,

21 Mackenzie Road,

Cambridge,

January 9.

## Growth of cancer

From Mr M. Ellis

Sir, Your Science Editor reported (January 7) on the suppression of the cancer link with smoking in the 1950s. In fact the link was established in the 1860s, according to a volume I have published then, called *Dictionary of Daily Wants*.

Under the entry for "Tobacco smoking" the effect has upon the health is clearly discussed: The occurrence of cancer in those who habitually smoke from a short pipe... are notorious; and there is a tendency to disease of the throat and air passages when this indulgence is followed to any great extent.

The habit-forming aspect is also covered in the extensive entry. One wonders how the whole subject lay dormant for so long and why? Yours faithfully,

M. ELLIS,

41 Crespijn Road, NW4,

January 8.

## Infant burial

From Mr Michael Pawson and the Reverend Roger Thacker

Sir, A letter which you published (January 8) from Michael Hull, of Bristol Maternity Hospital, is damagingly inaccurate. Burial, or for that matter, cremation, is not denied to babies of less than 28 weeks' gestation.

The law is neutral on the matter. Whilst insisting on registration and proper burial after 28 weeks it does not prohibit the burial of a child who died earlier.

Since 1975 this hospital has helped parents who have sought burial in consecrated ground to arrange a proper funeral for their dead children. The cemetery authorities simply require a letter from the doctor who attended the mother and child, certifying that the baby was of less than 28 weeks' gestation and did not, therefore, require a registrar's certificate.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL PAWSON (Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist),

ROGER THACKER (Assistant Chaplain),

Charing Cross Hospital,

Fulham Palace Road, W6,

January 9.

## Pay restraint and unemployment

From Mr Tom Ellis

Sir, From the end of the war until 1979 all governments regarded full employment, stable prices and a satisfactory balance of payments as their principal economic objectives. A crucially important factor in achieving this triad was pay restraint. "We must not pay ourselves more than we can afford" became the text of a thousand sermons preached from the pulpits of all the political parties.

So we witnessed a succession of incomes policies, ranging from simple exhortation through compacts with the unions to statutory pay freezes. However, none was established satisfactorily over a sufficiently lengthy period for its effectiveness to be judged and most acted simply as dams, later to collapse under the flood.

In 1979, therefore, the incoming government decided on a new tack and abandoned one of the earlier objectives. An important feature of monetarist policy, Sir, according to no less an authority than your own leader of a couple of years ago, is "a natural level of unemployment".

No one knows what the natural level should be, whether one million, two million, three million or more, but it has to be high enough

to enforce pay restraint on a headstrong work-force.

Pay rises, unfortunately, continue to exceed those of our more efficient competitors, even those with much lower unemployment rates, so one presumes that the "natural level of unemployment" has, in our case, not yet been reached. Yet the Chancellor has already told us that he plans "a Budget for jobs" and you in your leader today (January 10) support him.

A number of questions pose themselves for the perplexed citizen. For example, does the Chancellor believe that unemployment is at last at or above its "natural level" or is it simply that he is concerned more with disquiet on the back benches?

If the former, can we assume that the level of unemployment will remain at the three million to 3,250,000 mark indefinitely? If the latter, what does the Government now propose to do about pay restraint?

Yours faithfully,

TOM ELLIS (President, SDP Council for Wales),

Whitehurst House,

Whitehurst,

Chirk,

January 10.

## Opposition politics

From Mr Arthur Palmer

Sir, As a member of the Labour Party since my early youth and an MP for 31 years, I feel that the drift of Mr James Curran's views in your issue of December 27, although expressed cautiously, would keep the party in perpetual opposition in Parliament and it is there and not on the picket lines that power resides.

I remember marching in demonstrations in the Munich time before the last war and shouting "Chamberlain must go", but he didn't go until he was defeated by a parliamentary vote.

Likewise, Mr Heath was not cast from office by the miners' strike of 1974, but because he called a premature general election and was returned with an insufficient number of MPs to form a government.

The Labour Party cannot take itself back 80 years and start again with generalised socialist propaganda as if past Labour governments had given nothing worth while to the political development and social experience of the British people. Such a stance objectively gives support to Mrs Thatcher's myth that everything post-war before she

arrived was pre-history and wasted time.

I would have thought that Clement Attlee led the 1945-51 Labour governments, in home policy, at least, from a position to the left rather than to the right of centre and his achievements endured successfully until the present counter-revolution. But Mr Attlee didn't automatically take the trade union side in every industrial dispute, however justified the action from the individual union point of view. Indeed, I think I am right in saying he brought in troops to maintain supplies in two dock strikes.

Mr Neil Kinnock is wise enough to know that those who seek government office by parliamentary means must in opposition show that they have an instinct for future responsibilities. After all, nobody would pretend that in a free society there will be a cessation of industrial conflict once a Labour Prime Minister moves from 10 Downing Street. There was not in the past and there won't be in the future.

Yours &c,

ARTHUR PALMER,

14 Lavington Court,

77 Putney Hill, SW15,

January 3.

## Human rights in Malta

From Mr James Hill, MP for Southampton Test (Conservative)

Sir, In his final speech as Malta's Prime Minister Mr Dom Mintoff expressed a commendable respect for his parliamentary colleagues.

According to your report (December 24) he assured members of the Opposition "whatever he might have said in the heat of the moment, he had not intended to hurt individuals". This apparent respect for the feelings of others belies some of the recent actions of the Government, although he country is a signatory of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Articles 8 and 9 of this Convention provide for the protection of one's private life, home and correspondence and for freedom of religion. They lay an obligation on the State to protect these rights. However, this autumn the Maltese Archbishop's residence was ransacked during a demonstration by dock workers in favour of the Government.

The police did not intervene until the damage had been done and so far, nothing has been done to prosecute those responsible. Nor is

any redress available through individual petition to the European Commission on Human Rights, since Malta has not recognised the right to individual petition under article 25 of the Convention.

In order to contain potential violence by extending the rule of law, it is time to encourage the Maltese Government to accept the optional clauses of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The Council of Europe is the proper place for such encouragement since it is the institution responsible for establishing and administering the Convention. However, Malta has not been represented in the parliamentary Assembly for over a year now, and its Minister of Foreign Affairs has rather contemptuously boycotted the bi-annual meetings at ministerial level.

With the heartening news that Mr Mintoff has resigned, his successor must ensure that his government sends a delegation of all political parties to the next plenary session of the Council of Europe, to be held on January 28 in Strasbourg.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES HILL,

House of Commons,

January 2.

## Abolition of GLC

From the Director of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Sir, We welcome the underlying reasoning behind your leader, "The end of London" (December 27).

Whatever the eventual outcome of the Bill to abolish the Greater London Council, London will remain an administrative and financial entity for the provision of a wide range of local services.

Whilst we may lose the GLC, a large part of the cost of the Metropolitan Police, London Regional Transport, Thames Water Authority, the Inner London Education Authority, a joint board for fire and emergency services, and quite possibly a waste-disposal authority, if not others, will be met directly by London ratepayers through rates, precepts and parliamentary levies.

The LCCI's concern about funding these bodies is twofold. Firstly, at present there is no provision to co-ordinate the policy and expenditure priorities of these autonomous and single-purpose authorities, each empowered to raise revenue for its own purposes, at any time and in whatever times of scarce public resources.

Secondly, there is no opportunity for London ratepayers to assess a "bottom line" - the aggregate in any one year of all the rates, precepts and levies charged on a county-wide basis by the providers of services - before they pay the total bill.

Before the abolition Bill becomes law it is highly desirable that a mechanism should be introduced to enable a London-wide assessment of the ratepayers' ability to pay and fix priorities between the competing claims in a given financial year.

Yours faithfully,

ANTHONY PLATT, Director,

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry,

69 Cannon Street, EC4,

January 3.

## Ups, downs and so on

From Mr R. G. Manning

Sir, Mr Howard's ups and downs (January 9) reflect our society's increasing cynicism. "Up to you" implies an opportunity to earn honour. "Down to you" implies an imposition.

Yours faithfully,

R. G. MANNING,

17 Guessons Road,

Welwyn Garden City,

Hertfordshire,

January 9.

From Mr Harold Cottam

Sir, It was common parlance, I believe, in club and other circles to ask the barman to note down the cost to one's bar account when inviting friends and acquaintances to have a drink. The implication of the phrase "down to" therefore is that of putting one's money where one's mouth is. In this context, the use of the word "down" does not imply any more or less trendiness than does the use of the word "up".

Please chalk this explanation up and down to me.

Yours faithfully,

HAROLD COTTAM,

Kenney's Farm,

Mages Green,

Arbfield,

Reading, Berkshire,

January 11.

From Mr G. W. Crowther

Sir, I hope that Mr Philip Howard has noted in today's *Times* (January 9) that we are instructed to fill out the Valentine coupon. Once upon a day we would have been invited to fill it in.

Yours faithfully,

G. W. CROWTHER,

Beafield House,

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## ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 17 1920

Local and state prohibition of liquor in the United States had been in operation since the early nineteenth century. National prohibition was adopted by the eighteenth amendment to the Constitution; it was repealed by the twenty-first amendment on December 5 1933.

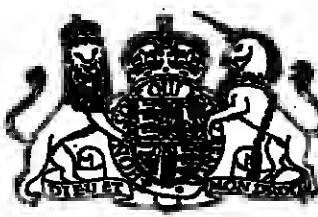
## EVE OF PROHIBITION

[From our correspondent in NEW YORK, JAN. 16]

By the grant of 24 hours' grace the legal effect of the prohibition amendment to the Constitution will be felt at midnight tonight, but for all intents and purposes the blow has already fallen. With the arrival of complete "dryness" the chief occupation of the public appears to be scanning the lists of things that it may not do under the Constitutional Amendment. These are given at great length by most of the newspapers, and the cumulative effect of the "Don'ts" causes the average reader to look up with a kind of stricken glance at his neighbour in the subway or the suburban train.

A great many people thought that the lists of "Don'ts" under war-time prohibition covered all things. Now, in addition to the "Don'ts" which are laid down by the Constitutional Amendment, the accompanying announcements of the inland Revenue officials have rudely snatched that belief. They have announced that, under the new law, one cannot even console oneself with the belief that in any case Government could not interfere with the natural processes of chemistry, that the ordinary fermentation of liquids gives rise to fermenting without outside aid could not be prevented by any law.





## COURT CIRCULAR

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
January 16: The Prince and Princess of Wales this morning visited Horton Hospital, Epsom, Surrey. Their Royal Highnesses were accompanied by Major Jack Stenhouse, Mrs George West, and Mr Victor Chapman, travelling in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales, President of the International Council of United World Colleges, this afternoon chaired a meeting of "United World Colleges and Appropriate Technology in India" at Kensington Palace.

His Royal Highness, President of the Royal College of Music Centenary Appeal, accompanied by Her Royal Highness, this evening attended the premiere of the film *Amadeus*, in aid of the appeal and the National Theatre Foundation, at the ABC 1 & 2, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.

Mr David Raycroft, Mrs George West, and Mr Victor Chapman were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit Strangeways Research Laboratory, Cambridge, and Goodfield Metal and NAPP Pharmaceuticals at the Cambridge Science Park on February 6.

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit Corston Village College, near Cambridge, on February 7.

The Princess of Wales will attend the National Jazz Centre's gala concert at the Looeod Palladium on February 10.

## Birthdays today

Mr Muhammad Ali, 43; Mr Keith Chegwin, 28; Sir Michael Clapham, 73; Mr Douglas Cleveland, 82; Mr Martin Cooper, 75; Mr Justice Mervyn Davies, 67; Mr Keith Joseph, 67; Mr Geoffrey Pattie, 69; Professor W. B. Robertson, 62; Miss Moira Shearer, 59; Professor David Smithers, 77; Miss Gillian Weir, 44; Lord Wheatley, 77; Mr C. L. Walcott, 59.

## Prince and Princess to visit Australia

The Prince and Princess of Wales are to visit the state of Victoria in Australia during October and November to mark its 150th anniversary.

The Prince and Princess will arrive in Melbourne on October 23 and visit areas in Victoria until November 5. They will also visit Canberra on November 6 and 7.

Buckingham Palace said their children were unlikely to accompany them.

## Architect's honour

The Royal Institute of British Architects announces that its president, Mr Michael Manser, has been made an honorary fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. He has been invited to attend the Institute's annual assembly at Halifax, Nova Scotia, in May.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Mr P. Behrens and Miss L. Wellwood Ker**  
The engagement is announced between Pablo, son of Señor Alfredo Behrens and Señora Magdalena Barbe, of Montevideo, Uruguay, and Lucinda, daughter of Dr and Mrs John Wellwood Ker, of Liss, Hampshire.

**Mr S. M. Bladen and Miss R. A. D. Hall**  
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of the late Mr J. D. Bladen and of Mrs G. M. Bladen, of Beverley, Yorkshire, and Rebecca, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. D. Hall, of Woughton-on-the-Green, of Buckinghamshire.

**Mr J. P. N. Dossin and Miss L. C. Crabtree**  
The engagement is announced between James, younger son of the late Mr J. P. N. Dossin, of Knaresborough, Yorkshire, and Lucinda, daughter of Major-General John Crabtree, of Sharncliffe, Yorkshire.

**Mr D. N. Diamond and Miss S. M. Goldstein**  
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs D. N. Diamond, of Manchester, and Susan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. M. Goldstein, of Leeds.

**Mr A. M. Dickie and Miss L. A. Ainslie**  
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Dr and Mrs R. E. Dickie, of Ros, Valley, Perthshire, and Lydia, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Ainslie, of Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield.

**Mr R. C. B. Ford and Miss F. A. Burton**  
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs R. B. Ford, of Richmond, Surrey, and Frances Ann, daughter of Dr and Mrs J. D. K. Burton, also of Richmond.

**Mr A. C. Keate and Miss N. S. Pledge**  
The engagement is announced between Angus Christopher, younger son of Captain and Mrs Harry Keate, of Killoch House, Kilmelford, Argyllshire, and Nicola Susan, daughter of Captain Roland Pledge, of Childs Hall Road, Little Bookham, Surrey, and Mrs Peter Liddell, of 7 Pratt Walk, London, SE11.

## Marriages

**Mr Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Prickett and Mrs S. Westerman**  
The marriage took place quietly in Perthshire on January 16 between Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Prickett and Mrs Shirley Westerman.

**Mr J. H. Garrett and Mrs G. W. Walters**  
The marriage took place quietly on January 16 between Mr Jack Garrett and Mrs Geraldine Walters.

**Mr C. W. Noel and Miss D. M. de Freitas**  
The marriage took place on January 12 at St Mary's, Cadogan Street, of Charles William Noel, son of Colonel Archibald Noel and the late Mrs Noel, of 15 Abchurch Lane, W.14, and Miss Diane Margaret de Freitas, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald de Freitas, of 63 Onslow Gardens, N.W.7. Father Henry Coombe, Treasurer, and Father Adrian Haller officiated.

The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by Mary Scott-Fleming, Rachel Bryden, Jane Pears, Lord Wender, Susan Kaul, Frances Kavanagh, and John Sumner. Mr Edward Noel was best man.

## Science report

### Brain disorder traced to 'prions'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Discoveries in medical and veterinary research have converged to provide an explanation for a rare but fatal brain disorder. In people, the illness is called Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease; after it, doctors who first identified it 60 years ago in a 22-year-old woman and, subsequently, in four much older patients.

Forty years later similarities were noted between a disorder called scrapie, which occurs in sheep, and another brain disorder in apes and monkeys.

The disorders were classed as slow, unconventional virus infections because they were totally unlike any known viruses. Six months ago a collaborative research team in Scotland and the United States said it was possible that tiny rod-shaped objects, the size of small viruses, could be infectious agent in both Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease and scrapie.

Those fragments have now been purified in extracts of human brain tissues examined by groups working with Dr Stanley Prusiner at the School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, and the Department of Neurology, in San Francisco.

To distinguish it from a virus the scientists refer to the agent as a prion, a word derived from protein and infection. The analysis of the particles extracted from tissue showed they were a complex of protein molecules.

The results of the research are reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The brain diseases also show some similarities with Alzheimer's disease, the ageing illness for which the cause is still unknown.

Dr Prusiner's group found that in animals the disease

system of the body reacted against scrapie prions by producing a specific antibody. The rod-shaped particles extracted from human tissue reacted in the same way with the antibodies that tried to neutralize the scrapie prion.

But extensive research has failed to detect any virus outside the infected material, hence the adoption of the name prion, which is a term some experts are not yet prepared to accept for a new class of infectious agent.

The biochemical analysis of the purified particles is incomplete, and there is no known class of particles which is able to transmit disease without having DNA or RNA, the two nucleic acids which govern the transmission of genetic information in all known species of life.

*New England Journal of Medicine*, Vol 312, No 2, 1985.

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## Latest appointments

**Mr M. O. Saville, QC**, to be a judge of the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court.

**Mr P. N. R. Clark** to be a circuit judge on the Midland and Oxford Circuit.

**Mr D. J. R. Wilkes** to be a circuit judge on the Midland and Oxford Circuit.

**Mr D. R. Pamfret** to be joint County Court and District Registrar for the districts of the Bolton, Burnley, Oldham and Stockport County Courts.

**Mr Philip Oakley**, finance officer and company secretary of the Universities Central Council on Admissions, to be the council's general secretary and chief executive from August 1 in succession to Mr Ronald Kay.

## College named

The new college resulting from the merger of the Royal Holloway and Bedford Colleges, of London University, is to be known as the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College.

## School news

**Bedford School**  
Easter term begins today with 1,107 boys in the school. Mr T. A. Eadon becomes headmaster of the preparatory school. D. W. M. Mitchell is captain of boys and E. H. Castleside, captain of the hockey. Bedford School Choir Society will perform Handel's *Messiah* in the Great Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, March 13.

**St Edmund's College, Ware**  
Lent term begins today with F. J. Gunn as captain of school. Term ends on March 27. The long weekend will be from Saturday, February 16 to Tuesday, February 19. The *Happiest Days of Your Life* will be on Friday, March 1, and Sunday, March 3 at 7.30 pm. Performances of the junior school operetta, *Patterson*, will be on Saturday, March 23 and 24 at 7.30 pm. The annual half-marathon will be on Sunday, March 17 at 10.30 am.

**St John's School, Leatherhead**  
Lent Term began on Monday, January 14. The school captain is P. M. C. Drury. The Bishop of Dorchester will conduct a confirmation service on Saturday, February 2, and a confirmation service on Sunday, February 10. The school will be on holiday on Wednesday, March 27.

**St Margaret's School, Bushey**  
Term has begun with 418 pupils in the school. Louise Boswell is head girl and Melanie Jones is deputy head girl. The confirmation service will be on March 23, and term ends on March 27.

**St Michael's School, Jersey**  
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## Luncheons

**Luncheon Comment Club**  
Mr Reg Fresson, MP, was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Luncheon Comment Club held at the Grosvenor Restaurant, London, on January 16. Mr Gordon C. Stroud, chairman, presided.

**Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames**  
The Court of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames held a luncheon at Watermen's Hall, London, on January 16. The Master, Mr A. C. Clark-Kennedy, presided, assisted by the Senior Warden, Mr D. J. Piper, Junior Warden, Mr J. T. Wilson, and Geoffrey Peacock, and Mr R. G. Crouch. Among the guests were the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, and Mr Christopher Benson.

**United Wages Club of the City of London**  
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriff and his lady, were present at a dinner of the United Wages Club of the City of London held at the Mansion House last night. Mr Raymond Findlay, club president, presided, and Mr Charles St. George, Master of the Fuellers Company, replied. Sir Charles Ball, Master of the Clockmakers' Company, proposed the toast of the Baskettakers' Company and the Prime Minister.

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THE TIMES

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Funds flood may swamp rise in mortgage rates

The building societies continue to ponder the problems of when and by how much to raise their interest rates. The larger societies met yesterday evening and the full Building Societies Association Council will discuss the situation tomorrow. The result may well turn out to be bleak for mortgage borrowers as at first seemed likely when bank base rates hit 12 per cent on Monday.

The upward pressures on building society rates are undoubtedly strong. Not least is the likely challenge from National Savings which must hang on to money invested in its maturing 19th issue certificate if it is to meet the year's £3 billion funding target in April.

Yet building societies must also keep a weather eye on mortgage demand. Their striking success in attracting deposits over the last few weeks has left them flush with money which they need to lend out. At present the balance is delicate. Mortgage demand is just matching the supply of funds, but even the Woolwich, which charges a mere 11.75 per cent on mortgages of any size, is having to advertise its loans in some branches.

So as not to be left with a large pool of funds they cannot lend, the societies will have to keep the mortgage rate rise to the minimum. This is likely to mean a basic rate of little more than 13 per cent. It is also likely to mean that differentials on higher mortgages will be shaved.

In the meantime, there seems to be little consensus among the large societies about a rate change. The Halifax and the Leeds are clearly keen to move up soon. Others, particularly the Abbey National, are equally keen not to move at present. In the event the building society industry could again be thrown into the kind of confusion that plagued it in the summer when societies seemed to be at each others' throats, bewildering their customers with a wide divergence of rates.

## Progress on the gilts front

There will be more than eight primary market makers in the new gilt-edged market and fewer than 100, the situation is still very fluid. This bulletin from the bank was delivered yesterday by Eddie George, the Bank of England director, largely responsible for master-minding the reconstruction of the market in time for the 21st century.

He told a City University seminar that the bank had no settled view on the optimum number of players, apart from the eight to 100 parameter and is prepared to look at all corners. If the press of applicants is too heavy, the Bank may set some applications aside but only temporarily; frustrated applicants could come back the following year.

It cannot be an easy job, altering 200-year-old methods of providing Government finance without running into a mega-disaster. Mr George acknowledged the efficiency of the old market, but regretted that a privileged few finished up within the market's high walls of obligations and rewards. More open markets are the ultimate aim, but as Mr George pointed out, change delayed for too long makes a small evolutionary step a leap in the dark.

His point that the old structure probably militated against any change at all and that markets will be freer to develop in a comparatively unknown directions is worth bearing in mind. Some of his proposals have been dismissed as heeding the letter but hardly the spirit of change, in particular the exaggerated importance attached to discount houses in the new set-up.

Yesterday Mr George provided more examples of how the best of the old will be tacked onto the new. The package of privileges for gilt market-makers, which include tax breaks, close relationships with the Bank and access to last resort funding, sound similar to the present range of jobbers' perks. The Bank wants to see gilt trading on the Stock Exchange floor, as now, as well as telephone trading. It has no plans to relax its supervisory role.

His comments on the discount houses however, contain the flavour of real alteration. Gilt market-makers can evolve into discount houses. The Bank eventually will be willing to establish a discount house relationship with any newcomer with a good record. Considering the intimacy of the ties between the Bank and the houses, that adds up to a big commitment to change.

Meanwhile, back in the bad world of the old gilt-edged market, the Government Broker may have regretted that the pace of evolutionary change has not already swallowed him up. The new top, £800 million of Exchequer 10½ per cent 2005, was expected to open at a quarter premium or £40.10 in its partly-paid form. Some dealers even suggested the stock would be taken out immediately.

Not a bit of it. The Government Broker sold stock at one-eighth premium, and then retreated, whereupon the market slipped. Most of the trading apparently was tax-loss switching. Long-dated stocks finished more or less unchanged on the day, while shorts improved by some ½ point at best. Nothing to write home about.

## The Hanson formula for success

Hanson Trust's annual general meeting at the Barbican Centre in London yesterday had the air of a prayer meeting for members of an extreme evangelical cult. More than 500 faithful made the pilgrimage through arctic conditions to praise (and just one to criticize) Lord Hanson, the charismatic 62-year-old chairman of the bricks-and-batteries-to-stores and engineering combine. The days when it is good to be a high-profile, high-market flyer are back.

Who can blame them? Hanson has devised a formula for success unequalled by others in the FT 30 index, except BTR and Sir Owen Green, another conglomerate with bold objectives and, the market seizes, P&O under the new direction of Sir Jeffrey Sterling. An investment of £1,000 in Hanson when it went public 21 years ago would now be worth nearly £500,000, assuming rights worth £13,660 were taken up.

In the last year alone, Hanson shares have outperformed the market by nearly 50 per cent and in the last month, much to the horror of Powell Duffryn, Hanson's latest takeover target, they have done 11 per cent better.

The relentless upward movement in the Hanson price has ensured that terms of four-for-three for Powell Duffryn, which stood little chance of succeeding, when launched in the middle of December, now look almost irresistible. PD shareholders should however, wait to see Powell's updated profit forecast, promised for the first week of February and not accept Hanson's terms at tomorrow's first closing day.

Hanson is now Britain's eleventh largest company with a market capitalization of nearly £2.2 billion. It is a highly motivated, professionally managed and carefully run group. Its timing on the takeover front, as Powell Duffryn is painfully aware is superb.

## Employment up by 49,000 as earnings rise 6.6%

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

There was a 49,000 rise in the number of people in work in the third quarter of 1984, the Department of Employment said yesterday. However, the growth in the employed labour force which started in 1983, has slowed down, official statisticians say.

Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday that the pound's low level should be "very encouraging" for jobs, offering "a huge opportunity for exporters".

Unemployment has continued to rise during a period of increasing employment because the size of the available workforce is growing.

The figures were released alongside new pay figures. These showed that average earnings rose by 6.6 per cent in the year to November, compared with 8.2 per cent in October but, because of distortions, the underlying rate is calculated to have been 7.5 per cent in both months.

Average earnings in November were depressed by 0.75 per cent, by industrial

disputes, mainly the coal strike. The strike's effect on the figures is now diminishing as a result of the return to work and the fact the November represented the first anniversary of the overtime ban, so strike effects drop out of the year-on-year comparisons.

Other distortions arose from delayed pay settlements in local authorities and the coal industry, and back pay for civil servants and health service workers.

The 49,000 rise in the employed labour force in the third quarter was made up of a 35,000 rise in employment in the services sector, a 5,000 increase in construction and agricultural employment and a

20,000 jump in the number of self-employed and member of the armed forces. This was offset by decline of 5,000 in manufacturing employment and 6,000 in the energy and water supply industries.

Later figures for employment in manufacturing, show a rise of 6,000 in October and no change in November.

The 49,000 rise in people in work in the third quarter of last year compared with 17,000 in the second quarter and 48,000 in the first.

It was well below the high rates of increase recorded in the second half of 1983, when the employed labour force rose by 66,000 in the third quarter and 12,000 in the fourth.

In the year to the third quarter of 1984, the employed labour force grew by 226,000 including a 233,000 rise in employment in service industries and a 35,000 drop in manufacturing employment.

The evidence is that many companies still prefer to offer their existing workers overtime, rather than take on new staff.

## Quiet day for sterling

The pound had one of its quietest days for weeks yesterday, in what was described as "routine trading" ahead of the Group of Five meeting of finance ministers and central bankers in Washington.

It closed at \$1.1195 in London, 15 points down on the day, after holding steady at just above \$1.12 for most of the day. The sterling index was unchanged at 71.3, having remained at that level in most of the hourly calculations during the day.

The money markets took comfort from the pound's

steadiness, the three-month interbank rate closing just above the new 12 per cent level base rates, at 12½ - 12 per cent. However, dealers reported some nervousness about today's figures for the public sector borrowing requirement.

The FT Index rose 10.5 points to 981.3 to make a two-day gain of 32 points. This more than wiped out the panic fall in share prices that occurred on Monday.

Share prices were marked up across a wide front as investors bought back shares after a market found short of stock.

## Letter 'behind Maxwell sale'

By Cliff Feltbam

Mr Robert Maxwell, the Mirror group publisher, may have decided to sell his large stake in the Daily Express group Fleet Holdings to avoid disclosing more information about his Liechtenstein-based Pergamon Holding Foundation which ultimately controls the shares.

Lord Matthews, the chairman of Fleet, commenting yesterday on the sale of the 15.76 per cent shareholding to United News, said that he was "disappointed" Mr Maxwell only told him about the sale of the shares after the deal was done. He said the transaction came soon after a "routine" letter sent by Fleet to substantial shareholders seeking information about the ownership of the company.

When Mr Maxwell phoned he mentioned the letter as being one of the reasons he sold. I was slightly surprised, maybe it was just an excuse. But it's



Lord Matthews (left) did Mr Maxwell dispose rather than disclose?

amazing how he has been getting out of companies so quickly. Maybe our letter triggered off this sale - he certainly seemed to move quickly in our case.

During Mr Maxwell's takeover bid for Waddington the company threatened to use British law to disenfranchise his 25 per cent stake unless true ownership of the Pergamon Holding Foundation, through which his widespread business

is directed, was disclosed. Mr Maxwell's entire stake was later sold in the market.

Lord Matthews said he would have been happy to have arranged to place Mr Maxwell's shares in the market but added "whether we would have got the same price for them I don't know."

Mr Alan Ford, company secretary for Fleet Holdings, said that as a "matter of routine" it had sent out a letter under section 74 of the 1981 Companies Act. "That is a provision under which a company is entitled to seek information from any person who may have any interest in any shares asking them to provide certain information about whether they are the beneficial owners of the shares" he added. Commenting on the large stake in Fleet now held by United News, which owns magazines and provincial newspapers, Lord Matthews said he had "no strong views" about the holding.

## Cruise lines in talks on co-operation

By Our City Staff

The board of the Cunard shipping group Trafalgar House will next month consider a report outlining possible areas of co-operation with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company in its cruise liner and container ship operations.

Sir Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House, told shareholders at the annual meeting yesterday there were "certain to be areas where economics can be made". And he described relations between the two groups - Trafalgar had made a takeover bid for P&O which it later lapsed - as being "at an all-time high".

The Trafalgar chairman said later that a joint committee, and individual groups, had been examining ways of making savings but no decisions had yet been made.

During the meeting, Sir Nigel said Trafalgar was still looking at ways of re-engaging its flagships, the Queen Elizabeth 2 and had also explored the prospects of obtaining a government subsidy in view of the strategic importance of keeping the ship in service.

If the vessel were fitted with new engines she would halve the fuel bill and double her life from 10 to 20 years.

## Norway reduces oil price by \$1.45

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Norway has set its official North Sea oil price for January on a scale between \$27 and \$27.50, a fall of at least \$1.45 over the previous official price set in October.

The new price structure takes the price of Norwegian Brent crude to its present spot market rate of \$27.25 and comes as crude oil prices in the United States are being cut and stocks of petroleum products are rising.

The new Norwegian prices will be at the higher end of the scale for Ekofisk crudes with Brent and Statfjord crude slightly cheaper.

Britain has yet to set its official North Sea oil price through the British National Oil Corporation and is unlikely to do so until after this month's emergency meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) due to start in Geneva on January 22.

Opec had been hoping to maintain a \$29 market price with bad weather forcing industrialized nations to buy in new supplies as stocks run down.

However, this strategy appears to have failed and there is

now considerable pressure building up within Opec for an official price cut.

However, in the United States the big oil companies have announced cuts in the prices they are prepared to pay for barrel lots of oil. The American Petroleum Institute says for West Texas Intermediate crude by \$1 to \$28, bringing into line with Chevron and Texaco. Mobil has cut its buying price to \$27.50 and Conoco to \$26.70.

Prices on the US spot market have dropped to \$25.90 and on the future market the price is now \$25.91, a drop of more than 20 cents in one week.

United States buyers are putting pressure on Mexico, a non-Opec member but one which follows Opec policies, to cut prices by \$2 a barrel below the Opec market price.

The downward price pressure in the United States is likely to continue in the wake of new statistics issued yesterday by the American Petroleum Institute which shows that last week petrol stocks rose by 0.2 million barrels to 241.6 million barrels while crude oil stocks rose by 5.9 million barrels to 341.7 million barrels.

## R P Martin takeover talks fail

By Philip Robinson

Takeover talks at R. P. Martin, the money brokers, have collapsed. In a statement to the Stock Exchange yesterday the firm said discussions which were taking place solely with a group involving the management have been terminated.

The shares, 310p six weeks ago before talks were announced, plunged 62p to 323p. At one point during the talks the price touched 410p.

Mr David McWilliam, managing director for 11 months, declined to comment on whether the talks had faltered on price or that Security Pacific, the American west coast bank and future owners of Hoare Govett, the stockbrokers, was involved.

However, the City is convinced that a firm "for sale" sign now hangs above Martin. There have been a number of management changes since it forged links with the West German money broking group Bierbaum and Co.

## £1bn London docks plan

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

The London Docklands Development Corporation, the body responsible for regenerating 5,000 acres of the capital's redundant docks area, has revealed its plans for the £1 billion development of the 700-acre Royal Docks.

The corporation is expecting the private sector to come up with three-quarters of that sum in commercial, leisure and recreational schemes which will transform the derelict docks into what Mr Christopher Benson, its chairman, describes as "a thriving water city".

The crucial factor in the development is the building of a

short landing and take-off airport. Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, has yet to give final approval to the airport plan which would be developed by John Mowlem.

Until the uncertainty over its future is resolved, developers and financial institutions are unlikely to commit themselves to investing large sums of money in the Royal Docks.

However, the Corporation says that some of the leading pension funds and insurance companies have already shown interest in the Royal Docks.

Golden Thames, page 17

## Clausen confident of Africa fund launch

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

The World Bank is confident that its proposed special assistance fund for sub-Saharan Africa will be launched in February despite the reluctance of some large donors to make funds directly available. Mr A. W. "Tom" Clausen, president of the bank, said yesterday.

But last night - after a 45-minute meeting between Mr Clausen and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Timothy Raison, the aid minister - the British Government was still saying that it had not yet reached a decision on the form Britain's contribution might take.

It was underlined in Whitehall, however, that Britain definitely supports the fund in principle. But officials continued to stress that budgetary constraints militated against

increasing the share of multilateral assistance in Britain's aid programme.

For its part, the World Bank recognizes that the \$1 billion it hoped to raise for the fund is now virtually unobtainable. The US, Germany and possibly Japan are unlikely to contribute directly. Coordination of resources made available in other ways will play a much bigger part in the bank's strategy.

Nevertheless, Mr Clausen said yesterday that since the beginning of December the bank had received commitments for about \$600 million and that \$800-900 million was obtainable. He added: "The absolute catastrophe. It will be the hinge on which we can hang the door. What will matter will be the policy of the donors."

## Fears on dual residence

By Ian Griffiths

The Inland Revenue's plans to increase the tax yield by introducing legislation to restrict corporation tax relief granted to some companies have been criticised by the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants.

The association argues that the proposals, which would affect predominantly those incorporated in the US but also resident in the UK for tax purposes, could hit overseas investors in Britain which is potentially damaging at a time of high unemployment.

The proposed legislation could also be detrimental to Britain's financial institutions and contribute to a reduction in invisible earnings. The association is also concerned that some UK companies could suffer a reduction in earnings in relation to the level of their investment in the US.

Rather than proceed with what it sees as being piecemeal legislation the association has called for a comprehensive review of the taxation of foreign income which should be carried out by an independent committee.

## Abbey Life may float shares

Abbey Life, the insurance company wholly owned by ITT of the US, may float a minority of its shares on the stock market. ITT has asked Warburg, the merchant bank, and Ernst and Whinney, the accountants, to carry out a feasibility study.

Abbey Life was built up by Mr Mark Weinberg in the 1960s. He left in 1970 to start Hambro Life, which has just been bought by BAT Industries.

The money will be used to help finance further development at Wyth Farm over the next three years and new projects in Italy, Trinidad, the United States and the North Sea.

Mr Michael Phipps, chairman and managing director of Abbey, said a share flotation would raise the company's profile.

## Premier to raise £16m

Premier Consolidated Oilfields, which recently fought off a £100 million takeover bid from one of its fellow members in the consortium which owns Britain's largest offshore oilfield at Wyth Farm in Dorset, has announced that it is to raise £16.5 million from shareholders through an issue of 44,725,559 ordinary shares.

The money will be used to help finance further development at Wyth Farm over the next three years and new projects in Italy, Trinidad, the United States and the North Sea.

The company is also negotiating a production-sharing contract in the Far East. Part of the proceeds of the issue may be used to buy into existing gas or oil production in the United States.

The autumn Premier thwarted a takeover bid by Charles Capel and Leonard, which also has an interest in Wyth Farm and its offshore oilfields in Hampshire.

The new shares are being offered at 38p, a 7p discount on yesterday's price. Charles Capel and Leonard holds 14.9 per cent of the company.

## MARKET SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

FT 100 Ind	381.3 (+19.5)
FT-A All Share	N/A
FT Govt Securities	80.17 (+0.20)
FT-SE 100	1254.1 (+20.9)
Bargains	26.152
Dailystream USM	105.05 (+0.74)
New York	
Dow Jones	1233.86 (+2.87)
Nikkei Dow	11,933.02 (+109.11)
Hong Kong	1358.81 (+27.81)
Amsterdam	191.4 (+0.4)
Sydney AO	734.3 (-0.4)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1149.5 (+12.2)
Brussels	
General	129.14 (-22.12)
Paris: CAC	189.8 (-0.1)
Zurich	
SKA General	333.80 (+0.50)

## GOLD

London fixings	am \$302.45pm \$302.20
close	\$302.50-\$303.00 (E270-270.50)
New York	
Comex	\$303.50

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	
Breville Europe	14 +2
Reardon Smith "A"	7½ +1
Blomchamies Int	15 +2
Mainnet Higgs	38 +5
Resource Technology	42 +5
TAOE	385 +42
Batt Bros	57 +6
Ass Brit Eng	15 +2
VW Thermo	123 +12
Kode Int	202 +19
Lowes Hurd-Spink	283 +25
Carpet Int	41 +4
F.M. Lloyd	36 +3
Systo	158 +13
Bristol Oil & Mng	25 +2
Waterhampton Ldry	25 +2
Metal Sciences	13 +1
Evode Group	119 +9
Garnier Booth	200 +15
Waring & Gillow	134 +10
Grey Corp	94 +7
Gavemore	63 +5
Bio-Isolates	41 +3

## FALLS:

W.G. Allen	25 -11
Zigzag Dynamics	75 -5
R.P. Martin	340 -45

## CURRENCIES

London:	
£: \$1.1195 (-0.0015)	
DM: \$3.5710 (+0.0070)	
SwFr: 2.9975 (-0.0165)	
FFr: 10.9340 (+0.0155)	
Yen: 285.40 (+0.10)	
Index: 71.3 (unchanged)	
New York:	
£: \$1.1185	
DM: \$3.5322	
SwFr: 2.9975 (-0.0165)	
FFr: 10.9340 (+0.0155)	
Yen: 285.40 (+0.10)	
Index: 71.3 (unchanged)	

## INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base: 12%	
3-month interbank: 12½-12%	
6-month eligible bills: 11½-11%	
buying rate	
US:	
Prime Rate: 10.75%	
Federal Funds: 8½%	
3-month Treasury Bills: 7.75-7.72%	
Long bond: 10½-10½%	

## Sidlaw Group

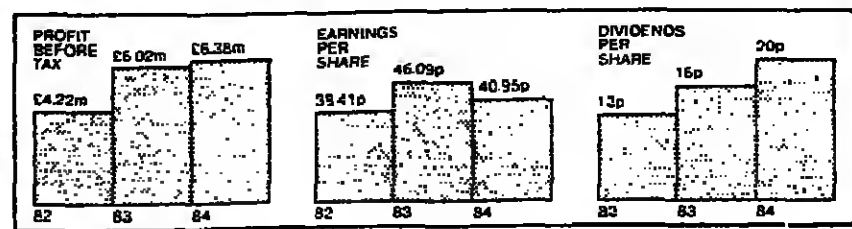
Oil Services and Textiles



## "Steady and continuing growth"

Robert C. Smith, Chairman

- Record trading profits from established businesses
- Oil Services +12% to £5.2M.
- Textiles +36% to £1.6M.
- Strong financial position. Borrowings only 7% of total funds employed. 25% dividend increase and scrip issue.
- New investments for future growth in international oil services and microcomputers.



Oil Services ASCO growth continues in Aberdeen and Peterhead. Textiles Successful year supplying carpet industry at home and overseas.

## Associated Company

Skean Dhu hotels investment sold with substantial gain. New acquisition of 50% of Drexel Oilfield Services (H.K.) Ltd.

For a copy of the Annual Report write to the Secretary, Sidlaw Group plc, Nethergate Centre, Dundee DD1 4BR.







Concluding a Times investigation into who is behind the million-pound property deals in London

# River Thames fringed with investors' gold

**WHO OWNS LONDON?**

The face of London's river is changing as derelict docks and warehouses make way for offices and homes. The view from the Tower of London to Blackfriars Bridge on the north side will be transformed. Judith Huntley reports on how foreign investors are spearheading developments.

The Thames, flowing through the heart of London, was once a thriving commercial thoroughfare. But its fortunes now lie in the development potential along its banks rather than in serving the shipping which used to crowd the Port of London.

The river's banks, from the docks in the east to Vauxhall in the west, are undergoing a transformation brought about by dramatic changes in power. Ship as Arab interests and other overseas investors lead the way in converting riverside sites from trade to commerce.

The value of the large wharf and warehouse sites lining the Thames lies in their proximity to the City, to the West End, to Westminster and to the main commuter termini. The changing patterns of London's business have left redundant docks and derelict warehouses as sad reminders of times past. Many are being redeveloped to provide offices, houses, workshops and tourist havens needed by today's society.

The Kuwaiti royal family is responsible for the largest development along the riverside since the Great Fire in 1666. A huge site stretching from London Bridge to Tower Bridge south of the river, formerly Hay's Wharf, is being developed with 2 million sq ft of offices, a private hospital, new shopping housing and industry.

The development, the St Martin's Property Corporation, represents the Kuwaiti royal family through the Kuwait Investment Office. A staggering £350 million is to be spent on the scheme, which is known as London Bridge City.

The first phase, costing £120 million, has begun. The old warehouses that flanked the road from London Bridge are gradually disappearing, to be replaced by 800,000 sq ft of offices and the hospital. The buildings lining the river are designed by different architects, to give variety along the 24-acre site.

Next to London Bridge station, No 1 London Bridge will have office towers of nine and 12 stories and a five-storey glass atrium. Chamberlain's Wharf is the site for the 118-bed private hospital, which is being built behind the restored facade. The old Hay's Dock building is to be transformed into the Hays Galleria, with 304,000 sq ft of offices, a public gallery and museum, wine bar, coffee houses and shopping under a conservatory-style roof.

When the scheme is complete it will be possible to walk under the bridge from London Bridge to Tower Bridge. New houses will be built, and there will be landscaping and open space along the way.

The Government's decision to allow the St Martin's development has started a bitter dispute. The local council, Southwark, opposed the scheme and was supported by local pressure groups which wanted public housing and industry rather than offices.

The half-mile-long site comes under the control, however, of the London Docklands Development Corporation, which is responsible for regenerating 5,000 acres of redundant dockland.

The LDDC supported the scheme and eventually Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for the Environment, used special planning powers to give Government approval.

There has been no such positive conclusion to the wrangling over the Vauxhall Cross site, on each side of Vauxhall Bridge, upriver from the Houses of Parliament. Vauxhall Cross consists of two pieces of land, one owned by Middle East

offices and the hospital. The buildings lining the river are designed by different architects, to give variety along the 24-acre site.

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interests. It has lain idle for 25 years while at least 17 development proposals have come and gone.

Pressures from conservation groups defeated plans for a 500-foot office tower nicknamed the Green Giant.

Next came Mr Ronald Lyon, of the Arunbridge property group, backed by Middle Eastern investors in a plan for 1.15 million square feet of offices. Mr Michael Heseltine, then Environment Secretary, turned on the Green Giant and persuaded Arunbridge to hold an architectural competition, promising in return to cut the usual public inquiry procedure.

The winning design featured a zig-zag office blocks facing the river, with the flats projecting from them. But the effort proved academic: Arunbridge went into voluntary liquidation in 1981, and the site remains in limbo.

A five-year struggle to resolve the development of Coin Street close to Waterloo Bridge, ended last year in victory for community groups.

Greycoat Commercial Estates abandoned plans for an ambitious project between Blackfriars and Waterloo bridges for one million sq ft of offices, shopping and residential development on the 13-acre site, and sold its interest in the land to the Greater London Council for £2.7 million.

The GLC has given consent for the Association of Waterloo Groups, a pressure group, to develop the site with 400 homes, 26,000 sq ft of studio and workshop space, a park and viewing platform on top of that familiar Thames landmark, the Oxo tower. It took five years of expensive protracted planning and much political battling to reach the point where some use is being made of the derelict site.

The north side of the river has not suffered the same decay and neglect, because commercial development at least has always been more attractive to investors north of the river. The City of London is the magnet which draws foreign banks and financial organizations as well as British. It can provide the office space they need.

The traditional wharves and docks that lined the north bank in the City have outlived their usefulness and redevelopment has taken place, with office buildings flanking the bridges. Three Quays and Sugar Quay

men continue in the belief that the BT share price has new heights to reach.

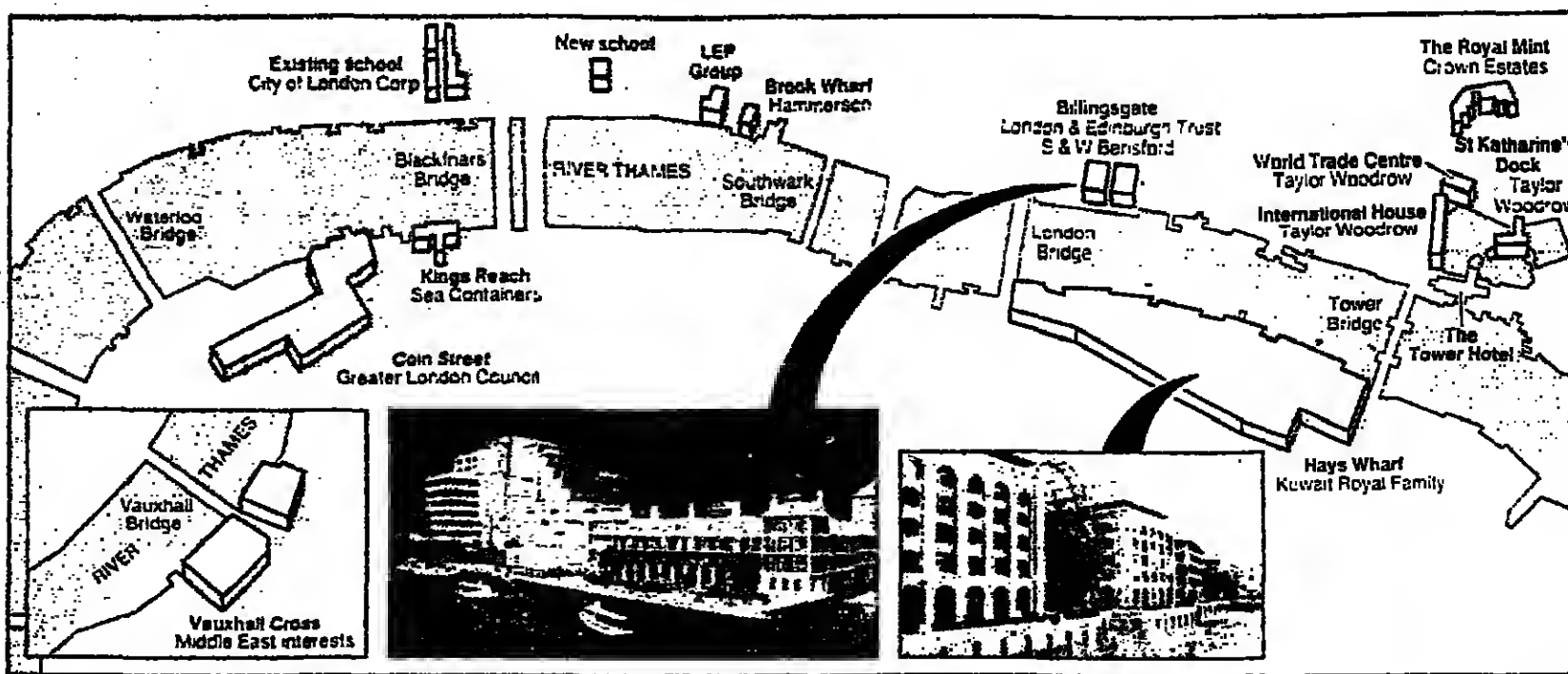
Courts also stood out on the options lists, with 1,266 calls placed against just 63 puts. Bid rumours were amplified by the rush for call contracts.

Commercial Union stayed prominent, also subject to takeover hopes. In total, 1,197 CU contracts were traded, with 954 of them calls.

The new 10 per cent Exchequer 1989 gilt came in for options business. Call contracts outnumbered puts, but not by a big margin, emphasising the unspectacular start to dealings in the stock yesterday. There were 287 call contracts, against 151 puts.

Market opinion on the future direction of the FTSE 100 share index stays gloomy. Put contracts were triple the number of calls, at 691 puts against 222 calls.

Kade International jumped 17p higher to 200p as buyers returned to the stock. The share price weakened in recent weeks, falling from the 225p level to around 160p.



Another scheme with a varied career is the King's Reach development, next to Blackfriars Bridge on the south bank. It is now owned by Sea Containers, the Bermuda-based shipping group which bought Sealink. The project started life as offices, housing and a riverside hotel, but unfortunately for the original developer the better dropped out of the London hotel market temporarily and grants towards construction were withdrawn.

The half-completed shell remained an eyesore for years until Sea Containers bought and began converting it to offices. It will provide 230,000 sq ft of offices, with 70,000 sq ft let to British Information Systems.

The most striking changes to the river frontage has begun with the development of Billingsgate Market and the adjoining site. Stepped glass office towers will sit next to the former fish market, which is being converted to commercial use.

Billingsgate had moved its operations to the London docklands, leaving empty the Victorian market building. The site next door, owned by the

City of London Corporation, was used as a car park, but its potential for commercial development was immense and there were several bids from developers to lease the site and renovate the market.

In the end London & Edinburgh Trust, a British property company run by two brothers, Peter and John Beckwith, won the day. LET is a partner with the commodity group S & W Berrisford.

The scheme will have a total of 245,000 sq ft of offices, to be built in phases next to the former market and fronting the river. A new riverside walkway will form part of the development and office towers and surroundings will be landscaped to provide greenery.

Next door to the Tower of London, a startling transformation has taken place. St Katharine's Dock has been developed by Taylor Woodrow into a tourist attraction. The warehouses surrounding the dock have been converted into shops, offices and homes overlooking the nineteenth-century Thames barges, with their distinctive red sails, moored there with the latest glass-fibre cruises.

The dock was the property of the Port of London Authority, which sold its interest to Taylor Woodrow, but it still operates the dock leading to the river.

A modern hotel, The Tower, rises above the dock, offering unrivalled views of the river and the Tower of London itself. The World Trade Centre and International House provide office space for a plethora of British and overseas companies engaged in broking, insurance and shipping. And the London Commodity Exchange recently signed a deal to make its home at St Katharine's Dock.

Close to St Katharine's Dock is the site of the former Royal Mint, where Britain's coinage was struck for many years. The Crown Commissioners own the site, and there are proposals to develop about 300,000 sq ft of offices: listed buildings have to be retained, with any new office development paying for their renovation. So far no developer has come along, but there is talk of converting the Mint into an Islamic museum.

Nearer Blackfriars Bridge, two of the old wharves are scheduled for long-term redevelopment. Hammermill, one of Britain's largest property

companies, bought Brook Wharf a few years ago with the long-term aim of redeveloping this valuable riverside site with offices.

Nearby, LEP Group, the international freight forwarders, has planning permission for about 200,000 sq ft of offices surplus to requirements.

The City of London Corporation is building a new boys' school near the Mermaid Theatre and the school's riverside building near Blackfriars Bridge and Fleet Street will eventually be redeveloped. The City had agreed to sell the school to a developer some time ago but the plan for a 400,000 sq ft office development which would have paid for the new school, never came to fruition.

The police market went into the doldrums and the intended developer pulled out.

Will British investors find funds for redevelopment along some of the most valuable riverside sites in the world or will it be left to foreign money? Developers are keen to obtain a foothold on the north side, but the south bank is still regarded as the "wrong" side of the river, it could remain a neglected eyesore. With Government funds being cut back, there is little prospect of public-sector development.

## US influence helps index back to near peak

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Equities were in exhilarating form yesterday. Indications of strong American buying and hopes that the 2.5 percentage points interest rate increase will after all be enough to steady sterling sent the FT 30 share index surging 19.5 points to 981.3 points - less than 2 points from its peak.

Many of the American favourites were sharply higher. The gains were accompanied by rumours that a top American institution had commenced a \$1 billion (£892 million) share buying programme which will be concentrated largely on British equities.

All index constituent stocks made progress. British Telecom surged 34p to a 125 1/2p peak as keen transatlantic buying developed. Glaxo Group jumped on Zantac hopes in Japan and Imperial Group soared 12p to 206p as the feeling grew that it had clinched the deal to sell its troublesome Howard Johnson catering and hotel group.

After two traumatic days trading, the stock market has now climbed back to near the level ruling before the sterling jitters created on occasions near panic selling.

The FT 30 share index has jumped 32 points in the past two trading days, almost recouping its loss.

According to Datastream calculations shares bounced back to £3,000 million yesterday, making a two day recovery worth £4,780 million.

BT's trans-Atlantic demand stemmed from British institutional and American invest-

ors who have been caught out by the sharp upsurge in the BT share price.

Shares sold in the US are now due for delivery and there were hopes that the 2.5 percentage points interest rate increase will after all be enough to steady sterling sent the FT 30 share index surging 19.5 points to 981.3 points - less than 2 points from its peak.

Glaxo got a boost from James Capel, the stockbroker. Analyst Mr Robin Gilbert, currently taking a look at Japan, believes Glaxo could sell as much as £50 million worth of Zantac there.

Greenall Whitley, the regional brewery which has been out of favour in the City since it took over part of the packaged tour operations of the failed Laker Airways, held presentations for analysts and fund managers yesterday and appears to have impressed its audience. The shares rose 2p to 179p and city profit forecasts for the current year are now stretching to about £33.5 million against £28.3 million.

this year, the first full year for the anti-ulcer drug.

That means the broking firm is likely to bring profit forecasts up into line with the rest of the Glaxo followers. At the moment, Capel suggests profits of about £32.5 million for the year to June, but that figure might rise to £340 million or more.

De Zoete & Bevan, long since fans of Glaxo, reckon 1985 profits will be more like £360

million, so Capel has still some catching up to do. But at least the firm is beginning to sound less like a dissembler who Glaxo is mentioned.

Zantac is rapidly becoming a word-bearing product. There is only one other high-selling anti-ulcer drug on the market, and Zantac looks to be catching up quickly. Tagamet, made by the US corporation Smith Kline, is the single largest selling drug in the world, but Capel, and other brokers, believe Zantac sales could overtake it by 1986.

At Glaxo, a spokesman for the group would only say: "Sales in Japan have had a very encouraging start, but it's only been available there for six weeks. We need to see the four month sales figures before we know just how well it's going."

W Greenwell, the stockbroker, added a note of caution to the City chat about Glaxo. The firm points out that a third anti-ulcer drug is about to hit the Japanese market. Gaster, made by Yamanouchi, goes on sale in early summer, and could knock those sales forecasts from Capel.

Nevertheless, Greenwell expects full year profits of about £355 million, with currency benefits helping Glaxo gain on the £256 million made last time. Imps, which enjoyed a late run, was rumoured to have sold Ho-Jo for about £360 million.

BOC Group was another index constituent in form following an encouraging investment presentation at Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, and the yearly shareholders' meet-

ing. The shares jumped 14p to 287p.

Elsewhere Rowntree Mackintosh, the confectionary group which has attracted a multitude of takeover rumours in recent months, rose 2p to 370p.

Market talk suggested that Rowe and Fisman, the stockbroker, had placed a block of 5 million shares through the market. The brokers refused to comment.

Mr Nicholas Nightingale, Rowntree's company secretary, said: "We are unable to comment on the reported

The Burton Group emerged yesterday as the surprise seller of a near 5 per cent stake in Etam. A single buyer pitched for the entire stake. Instead the 2.4 million shares were split between a few institutions at 142p each. Ward White is rumoured to have built a stake of just under 5 per cent, and Heworths have been tipped as a possible Etam bidder. The women's fashion group's own shares closed last night unchanged at 145p.

transaction in our shares. We have received no information from the brokers.

He added: "We do monitor our share register regularly for changes of ownership. At present we await answers to our routine inquiries about parcels of shares which came to our notice last month."

The shares are in separate parcels of 2 million and 2.5 million and together represent under 3 per cent of the total company equity. Swiss banks apparently acted as nominees to both cases.

Rumours of substantial Swiss buying of Rowntree's has often swirled in the market.

Government stocks failed to join the market party. They were mixed with small gains in the shorts matched by falls in long dated stocks. The new tap started at 140 1/2 in its slightly paid form. There was some disappointment that it did not sell off immediately.

The FT-SE share index was 20.9 points higher at 1,254.1 points. Besides the American connection which had considerable impact on blue chips, the market drew strength from thoughts that, after the panic moves, to bolster sterling, interest rates may soon start to fall again. A modest Wall Street performance and the miners drift back to work also helped equities.

Business was brisk on the London options market, with a total of 12,204 contracts traded. British Telecom again headed the list with 1,861 call options made, and 228 puts. Market

men continue in the belief that the BT share price has new heights to reach.

Courts also stood out on the options lists, with 1,266 calls placed against just 63 puts. Bid rumours were amplified by the rush for call contracts.

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Market opinion on the future direction of the FTSE 100 share index stays gloomy. Put contracts were triple the number of calls, at 691 puts against 222 calls.

Kade International jumped 17p higher to 200p as buyers returned to the stock. The share price weakened in recent weeks, falling from the 225p level to around 160p.

Waring & Gilbey continued to gain on talk of a bid for the home furnishings retailer. The shares rose 10p to 134p yesterday, making a two day gain of 15p.

## TEMPUS Trusthouse disappoints

It was over going to be a bad year for Trusthouse Forte given the recent popularity of London as a holiday resort, the question was how good would it be? Yesterday's preliminary figures which revealed pre-tax profits of £105.2 million, up from £82.1 million, must be interpreted as very good but not spectacularly so.

Perhaps the problem for THF is the common assumption that its fortunes are inextricably linked to the dollar/sterling relationship. There is a feeling that every cent knocked off the pound's value will bring another thousand eager American tourists hammering on THF's doors looking for a bed for the night.

In fact, US visitors accounted for only 30 per cent of THF's customers in London and much less in the provinces. While the company has not been slow to take advantage of the situation it has not made the mistake of pandering too much to the North American markets in an attempt to gather in short term profits.

The most beneficial aspect of the pound's weakness has been THF's new found ability to accept much smaller discounts on advance block bookings. The consequence has been that achieved room rates, the amount collected compared to the full room rate, have shown a tremendous improvement.

Further advances can be expected on this front in the present year.

Occupancy rates have also improved and there has been an encouraging trend for the traditionally off-peak months to attract more customers. This offers an ideal opportunity for the group to produce some valuable profits growth.

The main thrust of THF's attention will continue to be in the UK where it is succeeding in increasing the number of domestic customers. However, the US must be an area where the group will be looking for better performance.

The US operations last year were pretty disappointing. Virtually all the profits increase was attributable to currency translation. However, there has been a concerted effort to improve management and productivity over there and some genuine improvements cannot be far away.

THF's balance sheet still remains strong although its asset backing was bolstered by a £140 million revaluation surplus on some of its properties during the year. Gearing remains fairly constant at around 63 per cent and could have reduced had it not been for an additional £25 million liability incurred on the translation of the US loan portfolio.

The market was a little disappointed that THF could do no more than produce figures in line with expectations and the share price dipped 3p to 156p where the yield is 4.3 per cent. The worries about letting out of tourist demand in London have a degree of justification but THF is well insulated

thanks to its control of sales mix and the company's underlying prospects remain very strong.

AGB Research

AGB Research's rapid profits growth over the last 10 years could not last for ever. The slowdown arrived with yesterday's interim figures: pre-tax profits of £3.5 million, by the company's own standards, represent a relatively meagre 16 per cent advance.

The reasons for the slowdown, however, offer encouragement for the future. Operations have been restructured resulting in above-the-line redundancy costs the benefits of which will not quickly become apparent.

More important, AGB has been spending heavily on 11 separate projects, in the early stages of development. With little of the expenditure qualifying for capitalization, profits have been hit. AGB has also had to increase borrowings to finance the expansion which increases the interest bill. Gearing will remain below 50 per cent.

AGB's long-term prospects, therefore, remain encouraging and the short-term lull has to be accepted as part of the company's strategy. It is capable of making around £9.4 million in the full year. The shares up 5p yesterday at 237p are in the middle of their current trading range. As benefits emerge they are likely to move higher.

### Tace plc

**Benefits from high technology products continue**

**Preliminary Results for the year to 30th September, 1984**

- \* Turnover increased to £17,998,000 (1983 - £15,071,000).
- \* Profit before tax increased to £2,603,000 (1983 - £1,217,000).
- \* Final dividend 8.0p per share (1983 - 2.0p) giving a total for the year of 4.5p per share (1983 - 3.0p).
- \* New products being well received in home and export markets.
- \* Growth continuing strongly in current year.

Annual Report from The Secretary, Tace plc, Essex Hall, Essex Street, London WC2R 3JD

### Goring Kerr plc

**World leaders in metal detection**

**Preliminary Results for the year to 30th September, 1984**

- \* Turnover increased 53% to £2,294,000 (1983 - £1,504,000)
- \* Profit before tax increased 55% to £2,374,000 (1983 - £1,534,000)
- \* Earnings per share increased 61% to 20.72p (1983 - 12.83p)
- \* Strong financial position
- \* New products and markets boost profits in current year
- \* Final dividend increased 69% to 5.50p per share (1983 - 3.25p)

Annual Report from The Secretary, Goring Kerr plc, Vale Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 5JZ



## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Shares surge again

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings. Began Jan 14. Dealings End. Jan 25. 5 Contango Day. Jan 28. Settlement Day. Feb 4.  
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1984/85 Low	Company	Price	Chg. vs 1983	Qtrly Div Yld		
				Div	Yld	P/E
				4%	6%	
170	Haynes Publishing	230	..	17.1	4.1	32
180	Robert Curjel	220	..	16.8	4.0	32
181	Intergraph	210	..	16.6	4.0	32
182	Thomson	210	..	16.6	4.0	32
183	Avampolo	210	+2	16.6	4.0	33
184	Avampolo	210	..	16.6	4.0	33
185	International	210	..	16.6	4.0	33
186	Chapman	210	..	16.6	4.0	33
187	International Bank	210	..	16.6	4.0	33
188	U.S. Newspaper	210	..	16.6	4.0	33
189	Webster	210	..	16.6	4.0	33

OIL						
1984/85 Low	Company	Price	Chg. vs 1983	Qtrly Div Yld		
				Div	Yld	P/E
				4%	6%	
20	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
21	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
22	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
23	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
24	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
25	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
26	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
27	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
28	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
29	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
30	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
31	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
32	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
33	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
34	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
35	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
36	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
37	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
38	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
39	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
40	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
41	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
42	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
43	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
44	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
45	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
46	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
47	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
48	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
49	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
50	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
51	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
52	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
53	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
54	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
55	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
56	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
57	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
58	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
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68	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
69	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
70	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
71	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
72	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
73	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
74	Amoco	129	..	..	..	..
75	Amoco	129				

717	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
718	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
719	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
720	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
721	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
722	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
723	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
724	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
725	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
726	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
727	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
728	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
729	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
730	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
731	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
732	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
733	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
734	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
735	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
736	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
737	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
738	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
739	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
740	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
741	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
742	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
743	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
744	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
745	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
746	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
747	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
748	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
749	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
750	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
751	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
752	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
753	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
754	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
755	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
756	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
757	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
758	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
759	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
760	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
761	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
762	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
763	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
764	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
765	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
766	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
767	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
768	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
769	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
770	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
771	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
772	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
773	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
774	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
775	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
776	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
777	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
778	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
779	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
780	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55
781	Enterprise	180	3	64	54	55

108	Brandy	183	+1	7.0	4.0	20.5
109	W. V.	137	+1	7.0	4.0	20.5
110	Bard	84	+3	6.0	2.0	20.5
111	Clark Gable	845	+2	2.0	2.0	20.5
112	W. V.	776	+2	2.0	2.0	20.5
113	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
114	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
115	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
116	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
117	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
118	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
119	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
120	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
121	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
122	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
123	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
124	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
125	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
126	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
127	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
128	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
129	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
130	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
131	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
132	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
133	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
134	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
135	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
136	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
137	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
138	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
139	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
140	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
141	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
142	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
143	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
144	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
145	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
146	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
147	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
148	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
149	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
150	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
151	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
152	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
153	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
154	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
155	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
156	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
157	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
158	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
159	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
160	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
161	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
162	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
163	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
164	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
165	Clay (Richard)	149	+1	6.0	3.0	20.5
166	Clay (Richard)	149	+1			

[illegible][illegible]

57	McKay Secret	163	..	4.6	26	71.5
58	Marathon	118	..	13.0	13.6	11.5
59	Marathon	118	..	13.0	13.6	11.5
62	Master Ace	100	+3	2.0	2.7	..
63	Master Ace	100	+3	2.0	2.7	..
110	Matinee	350	..	2.8	2.1	1.1
112	Matinee	350	..	2.8	2.1	1.1
113	Matinee	350	..	2.8	2.1	1.1
228	McKee (M.J.)	11	..	8.1	1.2	1.2
229	McKee (M.J.)	11	..	8.1	1.2	1.2
14	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
15	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
20	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
21	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
22	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
23	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
24	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
25	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
26	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
27	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
28	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
29	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
30	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
31	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
32	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
33	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
34	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
35	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
36	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
37	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
38	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
39	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
40	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
41	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
42	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
43	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
44	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
45	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
46	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
47	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
48	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
49	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
50	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
51	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
52	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
53	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
54	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
55	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
56	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
57	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
58	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
59	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
60	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
61	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
62	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
63	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
64	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
65	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
66	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
67	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
68	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
69	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
70	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
71	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
72	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
73	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
74	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
75	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
76	Madeline	213	..	14.3	1.1	39.9
77	Madeline	21				

706	Shilling Gleanings	67	+1	8.3	27	20.8
707	Stamps	419	-1	8.3	27	20.8
708	Stocks	99	-1	8.3	27	20.8
709	Town Council	19	-1	8.3	27	20.8
710	Transport Panel	188	-1	14.3	72	18.5
711	Use Rates	313	-1	14.3	72	18.5
712	Wages	544	+5	14.3	72	18.5
713	Waste	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
714	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
715	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
716	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
717	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
718	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
719	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
720	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
721	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
722	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
723	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
724	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
725	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
726	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
727	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
728	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
729	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
730	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
731	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
732	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
733	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
734	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
735	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
736	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
737	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
738	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
739	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
740	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
741	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
742	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
743	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
744	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
745	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
746	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
747	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
748	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
749	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
750	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
751	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
752	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
753	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
754	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
755	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
756	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
757	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
758	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
759	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
760	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
761	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
762	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
763	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
764	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
765	Welfare	425	-1	20.8	41	25.2
766						

250	Memory Diode	235	+	-4			
250	Cash Transport	125	+		8.5	8.0	1.0
244	9 P 2 Dot	100	+	+18	17.5	17.0	0.5
245	Restrictor Switch	160	+				2.5
245	9 P 2 Dot	100	+		7.5	8.0	0.5
300	Turning Stop	350	•	-14	11.0	13.0	2.0

SHOES AND LEATHER							
188	70	225	+	+2	8.2	8.0	10.0
104	Garner Bunch	200	+	+10	11.1	10.5	4.8
134	Hawthorn Strm	200	+	0	3.1	3.0	0.2
134	Garner Bunch	200	+	0	3.1	3.0	0.2
770	Hawthorn 9 Runon	80	+	+8	5.0	5.0	10.1
770	Hawthorn 9 Runon	80	+	+1	2.5	2.5	0.2
58	Strong & Fisher	145	+	0	3.7	3.0	0.9
58	Style	150	+	+10	3.2	3.0	20.0

[illegible]

198	Sharon	26	10	13.1	9.7
199	Sharon Island	26	10	13.1	9.7
200	Sharon Island	26	10	13.1	9.7
201	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
202	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
203	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
204	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
205	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
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209	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
210	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
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213	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
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216	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
217	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
218	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
219	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
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222	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
223	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
224	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
225	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
226	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
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228	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
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232	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
233	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
234	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
235	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
236	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
237	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
238	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
239	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
240	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
241	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
242	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
243	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
244	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
245	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
246	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
247	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
248	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
249	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
250	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
251	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
252	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
253	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
254	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
255	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
256	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
257	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
258	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
259	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
260	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
261	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
262	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
263	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7
264	Sharon (Army)	26	10	13.1	9.7

[illegible]



## Tighter rules for names conditions at Lloyd's urged

By Alison Eadie

A consultative document published today on membership requirements at Lloyd's insurance market has recommended that the £100,000 minimum level of wealth required to be a "name" at Lloyd's should stay the same, but that the amount of deposits to be held by Lloyd's should be raised and that checks made on the names' claim to wealth should be made more stringent.

The £100,000 minimum was set in 1979, but compares with a £75,000 minimum 25 years earlier, which would be worth £24,000 today. The lowering of entry levels was accompanied in 1979, when for four years "mini-names" were allowed in showing only £37,500 of wealth.

The working party, under the chairmanship of Mr Pat Bird, which produced the report, recommends that all Lloyd's names should be treated the same way, effectively outlawing mini-names in future. Although existing mini-names should not be required to show wealth of £100,000, the report says they should increase their deposits in line with all names.

The report recommends that deposits should be raised to 25 per cent of gross overall assets, the total amount of business a name can write - compared with current requirements for United Kingdom names of 25 per cent of net overall premium limit. The net limit is after deduction of reinsurance up to 30 per cent, so the recommendations imply a 45.5 per cent increase over existing requirements.

The report also says a name's statement of means should be signed by an independent qualified accountant, instead of by a bank, solicitor or accountant.

As at present, and that means should be positively reconfirmed every three years instead of every four.

Lloyd's is facing a dilemma in that it needs more capacity (names) to cope with a sudden upsurge in business in recent weeks and to offset the effects of the rising dollar, but cannot let anyone join because it is wedded to the principle of unlimited liability.

The report recommends the continuation of unlimited liability and the ruling council of Lloyd's has already endorsed this recommendation. It has also endorsed the recommendation that all names should come into line on means and deposits.

However, the rising dollar means that in 1984 an increase in sterling capacity of 25 per cent was knocked down to 5 per cent by sterling's depreciation. Lloyd's conducts 70 per cent of its business in dollars.

With exchange rate problems in view, the report recommends that the assets acceptable for deposits be widened to include US securities, US mutual funds and US dollars as a matter of priority. At present only British securities are acceptable. A positive effort to include Japanese securities is also urged.

Other recommendations suggest that the maximum premium limit of £600,000 be abolished, the very rich be allowed to write more business, and that screening procedures for young names be tightened up. Instead of the "backing known against" procedure, prospective names should give more information about themselves with a business reference, giving character and financial information.

## Murdoch reshuffles magazines division

By Our City Staff

The News Corporation, publisher of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, is to reorganise its News Group Magazines subsidiary in the wake of last November's \$350 million (£312 million) deal to buy the business publications division of Ziff-Davis Publishing, the privately-owned US group.

News Group Magazines is to change its name to Murdoch Magazines. It will include the 12 former Ziff-Davis titles as well as *The Star*, *New York*, *New Woman*, *Elle* and the *Village Voice*.

Mr Martin Singerman, an executive vice-president of News America Publishing Incorporated, will be president of Murdoch Magazines.

Mr Jobo Evans, who has held executive positions at the *Village Voice* for the last eight years, has been appointed executive vice-president of Murdoch Magazines.

Mr David Schneiderman, editor of the *Village Voice*, has been appointed acting publisher, following Mr Evans' promotion. Mr Evans was previously the publisher.

Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of The News Corporation, commented: "Magazines in both the consumer and business classification are in a dynamic growth period. By combining our resources into a single entity, we aim to produce magazines of the highest quality to all the fields they serve."

## Accord on rescheduling Polish debt to West

Paris (Reuters) - Western creditor countries have agreed to allow Poland more time to repay government-guaranteed debts which were due for settlement between 1982 and the end of next year, diplomats said yesterday.

The rescheduling deal, finalised here late on Tuesday after a two-day meeting, ended three years of uncertainty between the 17 Western creditor nations and the Eastern bloc country.

Earlier talks about settling outstanding debt payments were broken off by Nato countries in early 1982 after the Polish government imposed martial law in December 1981. Since then Poland has not repaid any of the money owed to Western nations.

Negotiations resumed to late 1984 after the US joined other Western nations in lifting trade and credit sanctions against Poland.

The diplomats had no details of the deal but said they were expecting an announcement later yesterday. Reports from Warsaw said \$5 billion of Poland's total debts to the West of around \$28 billion were at issue in the talks here, although a senior delegate said they covered \$12 billion.

## Shultz fights move to alter US trade policy

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The Reagan Administration has decided on a dramatic change in American trade policy by merging several agencies into one giant department of international trade and industry.

Creation of the new department, along the lines of Japan's MITI, which is credited with giving the Asian nation its international trade edge, appeared certain until late last week when it ran into strong opposition from Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State.

Mr Shultz warned that a new agency designed to promote US business interests during a period of record trade deficits in excess of \$103 billion risked becoming a "department of protectionism," officials said.

He urged President Reagan to retain the White House office of the US trade representative on the grounds that it is the only independent arbiter within the Administration, which acts effectively both as negotiator with foreign governments and a distributor of bureaucratic battles.

## Monthly Income Deposit Account

With effect from 14th February 1985 interest paid on Midland MIDAS Accounts will be increased by 2½% to 11¼% per annum.

**Midland Bank**  
Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX

## CRICKET: INDIA'S CAPTAIN CAN FRUSTRATE ENGLAND'S HOPE OF VICTORY

# Gavaskar may spoil the party

From John Woodcock  
Cricket Correspondent  
Madras

For once the pertinent question on yesterday's test day was not whether England can save the fourth Test match but how likely they are to win it. With two days left they lead India by 339 runs, and everything so far has gone almost ominously well.

England will bat on for a "brief flurry" this morning. "There's no point in crawling anywhere," Gower says. He describes the pitch as being "very flat", but added that "if Norman (Cowan) bends his back you may see more game than expected. The ball is turning less than at a corresponding stage in Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta. This has been a big help to England in enabling them to get the better of Sivaramakrishnan.

England set themselves a target of 600 by Tuesday evening, having started the day at 293 for one, and they achieved it. Another 34 runs would give them the highest total ever made in a Test match in India. But more importantly, what are the chances of bowling India out again?

A bookmaker with the England party who reads the game as well as most makes it 4-5 England and 4-5 the draw. In other words, even money. The best potential help for the bowlers lies in the rough outside the right-handed batsman's off stump. What there is of that is where Shastri bowled over the wicket and Sirva bowled round it. Shastri's reason for doing so was purely negative, as evidenced by seven men on the leg side, four of them set deep. Sirva's was to try to unsettle Fowler.

A remarkable feature of the match has been the umpiring. We have two Indian "outsiders" - in fact, two very rare birds. India's bowlers could get nothing out of them, and there is no reason to suppose that England's will either.

That is not going to make it any easier for England to pull it off, and Gavaskar's slow ball and knuckle down to batting to eternity, he could well do it. Against West Indies on this ground barely a year ago, Gavaskar scored 236 not out and batted for 10 and three quarter hours. The West Indian attack consisted of Marshall, Holding, Roberts, Davis, Harper and Gomes.

On the other hand, Gavaskar finds the intense concentration which has for so long been the essence of his batting harder to summon than he did. Figures prove it. His nine Test innings this winter have been 48, 37 and 35 against Pakistan, and 27, five, one, 65, 13 and 17 against England.

India's best chance might be for Gavaskar to drop down to No 4, from where he made his 236, with Shastri moving up from No 6 to take his place.



Cowan: England expect him to rise to the challenge of a flat pitch

Srikkanth is too engagingly reckless player to be suited to the requirements of a long rearward action. Azharuddin is still pretty green; and Amar Nath, Vengsarkar and Kapil Dev have been batting recently as though there is no tomorrow. In the 150 overs which they will have, England should just about do it.

Yet when they lost the toss last Sunday morning, England were disappointed. They had seen the chance to bat first as being important, feeling that the pitch would start to wear sooner rather than later. In the event, everything has favoured the side batting second, on the first day conditions were at their best for bowling, and on the second day and third days they were ideal for batting. But it is one thing to have the luck and another to take advantage of it, as Fowler does.

England's batting order for this coming summer's series against Australia looks already like developing into a teaser. In the opening position there is Gooch to be brought back, but Robinson and Fowler are averaging 52 and 61 respectively in the present series. This takes no account of Boycott, Broad and Moxon, Gatting, Gower and Lamb are established for the moment in the engine room, though where they come in is to some extent unclear.

There is a theory that Gatting is not sound enough to be going in first wicket down; but Lamb made his centuries against West Indies last summer either at No 4 or No 5. Botham, if he returns, is best suited at No 5 or No 6, and Gower dislikes No 3. As things are going it would surely be madness to move Gatting from where he is. Time and again on this tour he has from there put England on the right road.

Gower was reluctant to talk about the order in which the batsmen appeared during England's innings of 611 for five, beyond saying that for the first hour on Monday, while Robinson and Fowler were settling in, he had the pads on himself. He then took them off and finished by coming in at No 7.

As I wrote yesterday, it did seem a little wary of him not to appear, as most batting captains would have done, when Lamb was third out, with 10 overs left and the score already 563. That he decided otherwise, when he must have known what was psychologically right, may have been a sign of his anxiety, deep down, about his own form.

The best technical reason for Gower's sending Edmonds and Foster in ahead of himself was that the bowlers' rough makes it rather trickier for left-handers to throw the ball than right-handers, there being more of it on that side of the wicket. England's plan today is to bat for half an hour, but only if the runs are coming quickly. It is felt that India will be more affected by pressure if they have nearer 400 than 300 to make to save an innings defeat.

The point of having a minimum number of overs in a day's play could not have been better made than it was yesterday. Had India not been obliged to bowl 80, I have doubt that they would have sent down a minimum-over regulation. Last year the West Indians got away with coming to England without one, as the Indians very nearly did in the present series.

● New Delhi (Reuters) - Food parcels, radios and handbags will be banned from the stadium in Chandigarh, capital of the Punjab, when England play there on January 27, one-day series in Melbourne and Sydney in mid-February.

"Imran" was about to leave Lahore for Australia and there was speculation that he might go to New Zealand instead," Saeed said. He added that no official approach had been made to the former Pakistan captain.

Abdul Qadir joined the tour party yesterday after his recovery from a foot injury. He is expected to play in the first Test because the wicket seems likely to favour spin.

The manager said that Imran would return to Australia to play for New South Wales before joining Pakistan's side for the seven-match one-day series in Melbourne and Sydney in mid-February.

## Sri Lanka injury doubts

Sydney (Reuters) - Sri Lanka were also doubtful, with a leg strain. West Indies makes three changes from the side which beat Australia by five wickets here on Monday. Gordon Greenidge, Robert Harper and the fast bowler Courtney Walsh replace the captain, Clive Lloyd, Larry Gomes and Joel Garner.

WEST INDIES: O. Haynes, C. G. Greenidge, R. Harper, L. Gomes, J. Garner, J. O. Marshall, V. A. Richards, M. Lewis, P. J. Collins, R. H. Roberts, M. A. Holding, W. D. Brindley, C. A. Walcott.

## No return for Imran

Wellington (Reuters) - Imran Khan will not join Pakistan's tour of the Test series in New Zealand. The Pakistan manager, Yawar Saeed, said a statement by the tourists' captain, Javed Miandad, that Imran could join the team for the first Test starting here tomorrow was "a bit of a false alarm".

The manager said that Imran would return to Australia to play for New South Wales before joining Pakistan's side for the seven-match one-day series in Melbourne and Sydney in mid-February.

"Imran" was about to leave Lahore for Australia and there was speculation that he might go to New Zealand instead," Saeed said. He added that no official approach had been made to the former Pakistan captain.

Abdul Qadir joined the tour party yesterday after his recovery from a foot injury. He is expected to play in the first Test because the wicket seems likely to favour spin.

## David Powell meets Britain's popular elder statesman of distance running

When Mike McLeod then up for the last Commonwealth Games at Brisbane, Australia, on Saturday he will do so as a favourite. But this elder statesman of British distance running is wise enough to make no predictions about his chances of winning, for he has learned from hazardous experience never to count his medals before they have been presented.

In much the same way as McLeod likes to run his 10,000 metres race - a brisk pace for most of the way then a fast finishing surge - the runner he goes to the last lap of his career, the faster the pace seems to follow in his footsteps. From 1978, when he was third in the Commonwealth 10,000 metres, to 1984, when he gave Britain their best ever Olympic result, he has won 25 medals, including a gold, a silver and a bronze.

At the 1984 Olympics, he was second in the 10,000 metres, but was disqualified for using drugs, though he refused to hand back his medal. The International Olympic Committee announced last week that their president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, would present McLeod with a specially struck medal at the World Indoor Games this weekend, but the Englishman had never intended to compete in Paris.

McLeod, though, was conditioned to the sport's unpredictable nature from before 1984, to 1978 he caught

## McLeod's silver lining brightens the gloom

Influenced just before the European 10,000 metres and finished fourth, warning up for the 1980 Olympic 10,000 metres final, he felt twinges in a hamstring, consulted his team doctor as to whether he should pull out, but when he was granted his wish to run 10,000 metres in the Commonwealth Games that year he had a poor last lap and jogged to finish in 34th place. He was then a member of the world cross-country championship team in 1983, which was ended when he had 10 stitches in a heel wound inflicted during a track race in May. Two months earlier he had withdrawn from the world cross-country championship on the morning of the race after catching a heavy cold.

In his last appearance in that event, in 1982, he was England's leading runner, finishing fifth in Rome. With Tim Hutchings, who was runner-up last year, an almost certain non-starter in Lisbon, McLeod would be an able replacement but, like Hutchings, he refuses to compete in the national championship, which is considered the trial race.

For his reason he was overlooked last winter and says: "I am sickening for my guts, not just for me but for England's future. We are a nation of cross-country runners, but we have not been proving it in the last

four or five years in the world championship."

England were champions five times in the Seventies but, now that the event is more competitive, it seems that it is only the English Cross-Country Union selectors who do not realize that no-one can give their best in the world championship just three weeks after having to qualify. McLeod says: "Do we want to win or do we want to play round? We must have the National Five weeks before and it would be nice if it could be over seven and a half miles, the world championship distance, instead of nine."

Since the inter-counties are over seven and a half miles, McLeod believes his form at Leicester should be taken into consideration. "If I feel I might have to review the situation but even then there is only a slim possibility I would run the National."

With the IAAF Grand Prix due to be launched this year, there is money to be made through participation fees and performance bonuses, but McLeod remains a pure amateur. "I am not going to get involved with bombing round the European circuit like a lunatic. I will be doing some of the meetings but I am not going to go chasing money. That way I will last a few years longer at the top. Some people will want to make a killing and then finish, but I look at Lopez at 37 or 38 and see his not a question of age. If there is a possibility of running in the '88 Olympics at 36 I will take that."

## CARRIAGE DRIVING

## England to host World Pairs event

By Jenny MacArthur

Following the successful Open Pairs Carriage Driving Championships held in Italy in 1983, the first FEI World Pairs Championships are to be held in England this summer. They will take place at Castle Howard, Yorkshire, from August 8-11. The horse driving trials held there for the last three years will run concurrently with Championships.

The FEI, the sport's ruling body, expects around 40 pairs to compete. Sixteen countries are being invited to send up to four pairs each, with the world country allowed up to six.

Paul Gregory, who won the 1983 Italian event after postponing his marriage in order to compete, is likely to fill one of those six places. Gregory, from Haddington, East Lothian, was national champion for four years in succession but had to miss last year's championships at Windsor because of illness. He said yesterday that he did not yet know what the qualifying rules for the world championships were, but he hoped to be there with his pair of Welsh cobs, Taffy and Concorde.

Prince Michael of Kent, a comparatively recent convert to the sport, is another contender for a place following his performance at the Wyke Carriage Trial in September, when he finished second out of 11 pairs.

## RUGBY UNION

# Welsh trip to Paris is frozen off until end of March

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

For only the fourth time since the Second World War, a five nation championship match was postponed because of bad weather when Albert Ferrasse announced yesterday that Saturday's game between France and Wales would not take place. At Ferrasse, who will not play for France, also criticised rapidly the municipal authorities for not doing enough to save the game.

It is the first time a championship match at the Parc des Princes has had to be postponed, although many of those who watched and played in the 1978 game between France and Ireland were of the opinion it should not have taken place on such a frostbound surface. The projected date for the France-Wales game is March 30, a fortnight after the last scheduled round of championship matches this season.

The postponement may have a significant effect upon the outcome of this season's championship. At this stage, France were outstanding favourites to beat a Wales side in some disarray after the trauma of the defeat against Australia. However, Wales will not play until February 16, when they have a home game against England, while France will also start their challenge against England but at Twickenham on February 2. For that game France are retaining the side they chose for next Saturday.

As no Englishman needs reminding, Wales have not lost to England at home since 1963, while the French have seldom been at the most serious level at Twickenham. A side effect of the postponement is that several of the Welsh squad - among them Holmes, the captain, Ackermann and Pritchard - will probably miss scheduled trip to Hong Kong with Cranshaw's Wales where they were due to take part in the Cathay Pacific-Hong Kong Bank world seven-side tournament on March 13.

Yesterday's decision became increasingly likely after the freezing weather of the last few days. The ground is frozen to a depth of 15 centimetres, through four centimetres of snow was cleared on Tuesday before covers were placed on the playing surface. It was at St Ferrasse put it, "too little, too late". He said the Paris city council had known the situation since January 7, but had not acted.

The necessary action, while the council countered by saying it would have been eventually expensive to have used hot-air fans to alleviate the problem.

M Ferrasse, not a man to mince his words, suggested the council was biased in favour of the two football clubs, Paris Saint-Germain and Racing Club, who also use the Parc des Princes. Michel Cagnin, president of the French football federation, said emergency measures to prepare the pitch for a rugby match could have raised the surface for the rest of the season.

Neither country was keen to play on January 26, France because they have a game a week later with England, Wales because the next round of the Schrepper Welsh Cup is due to be played that day.

Wales were involved in the last game to be postponed because of bad weather when their game with Ireland in Dublin three years ago was delayed for a week because of the snow. Ireland went on to win that game. In 1956 a frozen ground at Stade Colombes delayed England's game with France, while the other postponement since the war was the match between Wales and Ireland in 1947. Considering the variable weather to which we are subject, it is a remarkably small number, though



Ferrasse: criticism

several games have been played in dubious conditions.

Though the Welsh have a snowfall in Dublin yesterday, Ireland's game with England remains in no danger. The Irish RFL plan to sweep the pitch at Lansdowne Road, and move to England, due to leave Heston this morning, though they will do so without Woodward, the Leicester centre, who was named as a replacement on Sunday, but has now withdrawn because of a bruised low sustained during squad training at Bisham Abbey. Davies, of Wexham, who most hardly known these days whether he is coming or going, is restored to the replacements' bench.

England will wish to ensure the fitness of Andrew, their stand-off half, when the team train at Heston today. England's minor grade strain at Bisham, but Richard Greenwood, England's coach, expressed confidence yesterday that the young Yorkshireman would play. England's stand-off half, when the team train at Heston today, England's minor grade strain at Bisham, but Richard Greenwood, England's coach, expressed confidence yesterday that the young Yorkshireman would play. England's stand-off half, when the team train at Heston today, England's minor grade strain at Bisham, but Richard Greenwood, England's coach, expressed confidence yesterday that the young Yorkshireman would play.

## Snowed off

Among the victims of the weather yesterday were the New Zealand schoolboys who have been at London Schools at Old Deer Park, and Exeter University, who were due to play University College, London for a place in the quarter-finals of this season's Universities Athletic Union championship. Exeter have re-arranged the game for Sunday but are far from optimistic that it will take place. The UAU quarter-finals, on January 23, are also under threat.

## TABLE TENNIS

## Miss Troke solving puzzle

From Richard Eaton  
Taipei

Helen Troke, the European champion, who nearly caused one of the biggest surprises in badminton history in the opening tournament of the Pro-Kenex world grand prix in Hong Kong last week, is the No 1 seed for the second event, the Taipei Masters, which starts here today.

Miss Troke took the world grand prix title holder, Han Aiping, to the setting in the final game of their match last week. She is now likely to reach her victory with Kirsten Larsen of Denmark, before again tackling the world's outstanding players from China during the circuit's third event in Tokyo - the Japan Open next week.

It was a most happy now that I have something to aim at, that it is possible to catch up the Chinese whom everyone thought were unbeatable," she said.

England's two joint No 1 men, Nick Yates and Steve Baddeley, who also did so superbly last week, are seeded to reach the last eight in a men's singles final which will be strengthened this week by the inclusion of the great Liem Swie King. The three-times all-England champion from Indonesia is expected to meet the world grand prix title holder Morten Frost.

England's main worry is the fitness of the world mixed doubles champion and 1980 world women's doubles champion, Nora Perry. Mrs Perry has had a string of injuries, but is hoping to finish the season with more world championship medals and has flown out to join the England squad in the Far East.

The 30-year-old form Redbridge is reviewing her partnership with Gill Clark, the European doubles champion, and Thomas Kildesmar of Sweden, her fellow world mixed champion, although Mrs Perry is the No 1 for both doubles events, it is growing short for her to prove her fitness and the suitability of her partnerships before next month's nominations for the world championships.

## Douglas on the path of revenge

Desmond Douglas has an immediate opportunity to take revenge in the 1985 Welsh open championships which start in Cardiff today. Only last Saturday, after a hectic early-morning trip from West Germany, the England No 1 was beaten by Andrzej Grubba, of Poland, who went on to win the £3,000 top prize in the Charles Church International.

Grubba, the European No 2, is seeded to get the Welsh men's final this weekend against the holder, Jacques Securin, of France. But Douglas, who regularly beats him, could face the Pole in the semi-finals.

Douglas has won the Welsh title and is capable of doing so again, although all predictions could be upset by two little-known, and unranked Chinese.

It is the last chance for England players to impress the selectors before teams are named for the world and Commonwealth championships. Hoping to win approval are Alan Cooke and Carl Preen with the Middlesex left-hander, Graham Sandley, is anxious to re-establish himself after dropping to No 4 in the rankings.

It is Douglas, Cooke and Preen make up the seeded England squad for the team events which begin the championships.

## MOTOR RACING

## ATS pull out of Formula One

Bonn (Reuters) - The West German Formula One motor racing team, ATS, are leaving the grand prix circuit, their team driver Gerhard Berger said yesterday. Berger, who expects to drive for the British Arrows team this year, said that ATS's decision last September to stop providing ATS with turbocharged engines was the main reason behind the move.

## WARNING

## Ban on Shooting of Wild Birds

The Secretary of State for the Environment has made an order prohibiting the shooting in England and Wales of (except capercaillie) included in Schedule 2 part 1 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 from 0900 hours on Wednesday 18th January 1985 until 2400 hours on 28th January 1985.

Anyone who does not comply may be guilty of an offence.



## SWIMMING

# Europeans test the water over circuit

Bonn (Reuter) - Leading European swimming nations are to meet next month to discuss the setting of a circuit on the lines of the alpine skiing World Cup and forthcoming athletics grand prix series, officials said.

The West German national coach, Manfred Thiesmann, said swimming faced more difficulties than many other sports because

British swimmers would almost certainly participate in the proposed event as they already do in the swimming, unconnected meetings (see the whole Still writes). The British Swimming Federation has not been consulted because it does not represent over a major international swimming meeting.

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**RUGBY LEAGUE**

**£1 offer to**

Then, as Norwich again came forward, Bruce's header hit the bar as he met Barham's corner and

**By Keith Macklin**

Two 31-year-old men, one a graduate of English, the other a student of Law, are offering to buy the student union for £1, with a deadline fixed at noon next Monday.

They are Jonathan Price, a private tutor in Cardiff, and Jeff Woods, a former Bridgford coach who was sacked earlier this season, for only four games.

Price said last night that the offer was perfectly serious, and had the

senal in an attempt to beat the

to accumulate debts running into figures and these would have to be cleared," he said. The present owner of Brigid's is Eugene Marros, a nightclub owner in Little Wales, who said recently that he would look at any offers to buy the club.

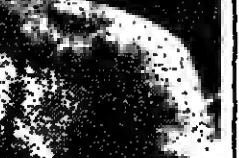
Brigid said: "We don't want Rugby to become a joke in South Wales; we want the game to take its place in this part of the world. If Mr. Jones is not the only offer for the club Monday's deadline, we are prepared to look at other possibilities in this part of the world."

He said that contingency plans

Bridgend, who have yet to win a

game this season, to exist on gates as low as 300. A marketing manager would be appointed to set up a lottery, merchandising and a social club income. If the bid was successful, Price and Woods would call creditors' meeting and attempt

● Progress of a solution to the



Stockley, of Southam to lit-  
dispute between the Fulham centre,  
Trevor Stockley, and Widnes, who  
claim to have signed him, bright-  
ened yesterday. All three parties  
appeared before the Rugby League  
management committee at Leeds,  
following the suspension of the  
transfer of Stockley from Fulham to  
Widnes last week.

The problem has been that  
Stockley, unlike other players who  
claim to be free agents, has played  
several games for Fulham this  
season. Widnes believe they signed  
him in good faith, Fulham, opposed  
the transfer on the grounds that  
Stockley is not a free agent, and the  
player appeared with his solicitor.

The committee adjourned, and  
an announcement is expected later  
this week giving rise to the belief  
that the parties are being given time

themselves.



● Widnes have appealed against the reduction of the transfer fee on their international half back Andy Gregory from £130,000 to £75,000 because Gregory had only been on the transfer list for a few days and Widnes had not had a chance to test the market.

Carlisle have approached St Helens for permission to have the Saints winger, Kevin Meadows, on loan with a view to a permanent move.

## French claims victory for teachers

Ray French, the former England

to retire

...sincere, but some of the blame  
...the whole question of the

participation of school teachers who are Rugby League players and how the regulations could be changed to include them.

Etchell commented that he had achieved everything I set out to do and the committee has agreed to accept me as any teacher. The move by the AEFU must be applauded and it is time to eradicate a lot of antagonism. I am only interested in the rights of a

...the fact that the *in vitro* and *in vivo* results are in good agreement, and that the *in vivo* results are in good agreement with the results of the *in vitro* studies.







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Busy PR Consultancy in lower Regent St. requires Secretary 23+. Candidate requires initiative, willingness to take on a lot of responsibility & boundless enthusiasm as well as excellent sh/typing. Salary on application.

Tel: Mike Davies  
on 930 6711  
FOR IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW  
(no agencies)

## Secretary

Salary - to £7,200

We need a young, self-motivated secretary to work in our Tax Training Department.

Duties include liaison with professional training bodies, typing course material, course administration and attendance.

You should be well-spoken with good secretarial skills and a minimum typing speed of 65 wpm.

Benefits include subsidised staff restaurant, season ticket loan scheme, etc.

Please telephone Sally Kilgour on 01 248 3913.

## Deloitte Haskins & Sells

129 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4M 6AE

## American Bank

£9,000 + benefits

This Bank is at the forefront of Hi-Tech development in Financial Services. The Marketing Director and his dynamic young team need a bright capable secretary with excellent organisational ability and plenty of initiative. Experience on computers and/or WP is preferred. Languages useful. Skills 90/55. 3 audio. Age 20+. Benefits include a health and sports centre at their new office. Please telephone 01-493 5787. Gordon Yates Ltd, 35 Old Bond Street, London W1 (Recruitment Consultants)

## YOUNG RECEPTIONIST

£26,500

A firm of Lloyd Brokers are offering a bright receptionist to a client who is looking for a friendly person in a busy City office. You'll greet visitors, handle a simple telephone, do some typing (an accurate 40 wpm) and deal with varied administrative duties.

**Bernadette of Bond St.**  
Recruitment Consultants  
No 35, Leas Row, Islington  
01-429 1294

## SEC/PA ASCOT

You will work with 2 Dirs. of Publishing/Printing/Property/Teaching/Charity Group. You will need to be flexible and able to work with the Director. Ability to supervise and hire staff. Preference given to a person with good educational qualifications. Top salary by negotiation. Annual bonus, pension. Prestigious office in our Ascot mansion.

Ring MD 0990 23377

## GERMAN

Point to see: Anglistin in Süd-Deutschland zu arbeiten! Sie suchen über einige Jahre Sekretärin/Assistentin für ein Unternehmen, das in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland tätig ist. Sie werden in der Verwaltung und in der Kundenbetreuung tätig sein. Sie müssen Deutsch und Englisch sprechen können. Alter: 20-30. Gehalt: £10,000.

Neuzuzug: eine Wohnung in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Sie werden in der Verwaltung und in der Kundenbetreuung tätig sein. Sie müssen Deutsch und Englisch sprechen können. Alter: 20-30. Gehalt: £10,000.

BOYCE AGENCY LTD.  
01-236 5501

## First-class PA/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

required for young Director of West End Gallery. Must have excellent skills and organisational ability, with good experience in reception work. French and/or German useful. Salary on application. Please apply in writing to: ANTHONY DUFFY GALLERY, 9 Dering St, London, W1.

## An invitation to talk about joining the Alfred Marks team.

Vacancies as branch office managers, temps controllers and permanent secretaries.

Wednesday, 23rd January at the Selfridge Hotel, 6-9 p.m.

Would you like to hear about the exciting opportunities that exist with Alfred Marks? Britain's foremost recruitment consultants? We're looking for people who are confident, hard working and skilled at communicating with both professional applicants and clients.

If you're interested in hearing more, then come and meet us for an informal chat over a glass of wine. We look forward to hearing from you. Selfridge Hotel, Orchard Street, London W1.

**ALFRED MARKS**

## SENIOR SECRETARY

around £10,000

We are seeking a highly experienced Secretary to take on the important role of providing a full secretarial and administrative service to our Financial Controller. You will also act as Assistant Secretary to one of our Committees. This will involve the arranging of meetings, taking minutes, and organising the preparation and distribution of relevant paperwork.

The importance with which we regard this position means that you will have a high level secretarial background, and good shorthand skills. You will be seeking a fresh challenge in an area where you can further develop your skills. This position will provide that opportunity. Ideally you will already have experience in committee work.

The starting salary will be around £10,000 p.a. and you will also receive excellent benefits which include free travel, lunches, BUPA and non-contributory pension scheme.

Please write with a full CV to Barbara Coulson, Personnel Officer, The Stock Exchange, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HP. Or telephone 01-588 2355 (ext. 26883).

## The Stock Exchange

## SECRETARY required for

Company Secretary of leading Advertising Agency. Good shorthand, and accurate typing speeds with some audio skills are required. Experience in an international financial environment desirable. Salary c. £8,500. Phone Martin Patmor, 01-589 1444 or write to him at

## BENTON & BOWLES LTD

197 Knightsbridge, London SW7

## Ask Alfred Marks

## LATE NIGHT CHEESE AND WINE PARTY

21st JANUARY 1985

We at Alfred Marks realise how difficult it can be in your search for a new position. Therefore we have decided to open late on the above evening so that you may discuss at your leisure the vacancies that we have to offer. No need for an appointment. Our office will be serving cheese and wine from 5.30pm onwards. So please feel free to call us for a chat at Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants, 64 Fleet St, EC4.

353 3232

## CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

Chairman of small company and developing environmental trust requires a secretary for WC2 office.

Top secretarial skills are necessary along with the ability to work under pressure. Knowledge of wordprocessing an asset although training will be given.

Starting salary £10,500 reviewed in 9 months. Free BUPA. Hours 0900 to 1700. 4 wks holiday.

Write with full details to: Mrs H. Jamieson, Neil Jamieson Associates Ltd, 8 Maltravers Street, LONDON WC2R 3EE.

## Ask Alfred Marks

## LEGAL SHORTHAND SECRETARY

£8,500

Large media group have a vacancy in their legal department. Experience in company law is preferred. You will be reporting to the Assistant Legal Advisor and he is looking for someone who has good organisational skills as well as a good sense of humour.

For immediate interview please call Miss Butler or Miss Kavanagh on Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants 353 3232

## FLUENT PORTUGUESE

£10,000

Our client a subsidiary of a large international firm of shopfitters seeks a professional, dynamic, bilingual Secretary to help set up the London office. You'll find this a challenging, rewarding opportunity to join a growing and exciting firm. You must be of responsible age, 30/60 skills essential.

01-236 3712 City  
01-499 8070 West End  
**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## PA TO DIRECTOR

£10,000

This is a new London office of a substantial property development company. The post requires a user efficient secretary (25-35), who is willing and able to undertake a wide range of duties in order to develop legal systems and run the office effectively. Involvement in the company's growth and development is essential. Office W1. Non smoker please.

Telephone Mary Bettans  
Recruitment on 01-724 5771

## LIVELY AUDIO SECRETARY

Required for team of very busy building surveyors based in SW7. Minimum 3 years Secretarial experience.

Telephone Sally Clare on 581 6016

## DOMINION INTERNATIONAL GROUP plc

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT - NATURAL RESOURCES - FINANCIAL SERVICES

Growing top British Company, shortly relocating its Headquarters to prestigious offices in Parkside, Wimbledon is looking for several new members of staff to maintain its momentum and growth.

Secretary for Chairman's office - demanding position with lots of general secretarial work including shorthand. Experience and ability to cover in Assistant's absence. Varying hours in scope with worldwide communications.

Secretary/PA for Finance Director - initiative, numeracy and good shorthand skills including shorthand with wide responsibility in look after Director and liaise with his financial team.

Secretary for New Corporate Planning Team - your chance to be in at the beginning. A new Corporate Planning Team of three senior executives has been set up and they need someone willing to set up procedures, organise and willing to work in an international environment.

All these positions carry salaries commensurate with the position together with all usual benefits associated with a large company.

Applications should be in writing enclosing C.V. and sent to:  
Mr W. A. Carroll, FCA, Company Secretary,  
Dominion International Group plc,  
Dunelm House, Brighton Road,  
Barnet, Surrey, SN7 1DE.

## Temp 1985... Temps 1985... Temps 1985

## New Year More Opportunities Higher Rates

We are looking for new temps to join our team of highly qualified secretaries/PAs in 1985. Speeds of 100/60 are essential and Word Processing experience (Wang, IBM, Wordstar) is preferred. Our bookings vary in length and we always have excellent opportunities for those wishing to temp into their permanent jobs.

If you are interested in becoming part of a professional and happy temporary team we would be delighted to hear from you.

City Office: 726 8491  
West End Office: 629 9686  
**ANGELA MORTIMER**  
A Specialist Recruitment Company

## RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

We are a fast moving international organisation based in Central London.

We urgently require a receptionist/secretary who is well spoken, dynamic & perfectly groomed.

The successful applicant should have at least 2 years' experience with typing speeds of 50/60 wpm. A second language is preferred, but not essential.

Remuneration is negotiable depending on experience.

If you feel you have the right qualifications for the position, please write with full CV to: Ref. 77.

121 Westminster Bridge Road,  
London SE1 7JR  
(No agencies)

## SALES - RECRUITMENT INDUSTRY

c £7,500 + bonus on results

An opportunity arises for a forward thinking individual to join a newly formed sales team operating in the West End. The emphasis is on service and professionalism - working in a very competitive market. The ideal candidate will have knowledge of an office environment, an aptitude for sales and the ability to cope under pressure.

If you feel you are interested in this, and have a sharp desire to be a part of a successful team, apply in strictest confidence to: Amanda James, Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants, 29 Duke Street, London W1 or Telephone 01-631 5262.

## GIRLS PUBLIC DAY SCHOOL TRUST

South Hampstead High School  
3 Maresfield Gardens, London NW3

## SCHOOL SECRETARY

This is a demanding and responsible job requiring intelligence, efficiency and the ability to set priorities and work accurately under pressure. Hours in term time are long but compensated by flexible working in the school holidays. 6 weeks holiday annually and 8 statutory 2 days. Salary up to £9,000 p.a. free lunches. Experience in a school office would be desirable but is not essential. Quick accurate typing & proven administrative ability are. We seek a mature person probably over 40.

Apply to Headmistress with the names of at least 2 referees.

## UK FEDERATION BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN OFFICE MANAGER

required to take charge of small busy office in Regent Street. Must be fully conversant with computers and office procedures. Shorthand typing essential in addition to excellent verbal and written communication skills. Must be capable of dealing with the media and public, pleasant, energetic, and a team player. Please send your CV to: Mrs E. G. Humphrey, General Secretary, 29 Duke St, London W1, 01-631 5262.

## SECRETARY FOR CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

W.1

Must be experienced in all secretarial skills. Ability to work under pressure. Good appearance. Salary up to £9,000.

Telephone 01-536 4706  
(No Agencies)

## PA/Secretary

£5-6,000 p.a. 25-35 years required for an international company in Mayfair. Good shorthand and typing skills. Salary up to £6,000 p.a. Send CV to: Lisa or Adele on 483 9441

## Super Secretaries on page 21







# General Appointments

## Imperial Cancer Research Fund THE SECRETARY

Because of the impending retirement of the present Secretary, Mr. A.B.L. Clarke, CBE, the Council welcomes applications for consideration in connection with the appointment of his successor. The Fund is a Charity of somewhat unusual scale and substance. With an income of about £25m, and employing approximately 1,000 people, it is the largest independently financed cancer research organisation in Europe, and depends totally on voluntary contributions.

The Secretary of the Fund is directly responsible to the Council for the administration of the Charity, and has seven department heads reporting to him, covering all aspects of the activity apart from the conduct of research and laboratory management.

Candidates will probably be between 45-55 years' old, and possess a highly successful track record in significant senior positions, where they will have shown a broad competence in commercial and financial management, gained in the public or the private sector.

Those who are interested in learning more about this opportunity should write in the first instance to:—

The Managing Director,  
Spencer Stuart & Associates,  
Brook House, 113 Park Lane, London W1.  
Complete confidentiality will be observed.

## SALES DIRECTOR

CATERING TABLEWARE  
c. £25,000

We are leading suppliers of china, glass, silverware and sole distributors of internationally famous tableware to the Hotel and Catering Industry, with a multi million £ turnover. Continued expansion demands a dynamic Sales Director to lead our successful team.

Candidates, with an outstanding record in sales management will be expected to develop the existing business and expand the customer base. Organisation and administration strengths essential.

Negotiable remuneration package, which includes a company car, is offered with excellent prospects in an established exciting and expanding Group.

Applications with C.V. in writing to The Chairman

CHINACRAFT GROUP OF COMPANIES  
130, Barby Road, London, W10 6BW

## Join the Professionals

Denise Ansell —  
Age 23,  
Joined Marlowe-  
Sachs in June 1978  
Earnings for year  
ending April 1983 —  
£31,000 and BMW.  
Previous occupation  
— Secretary.  
Previous Salary  
— £4,700.



Preston Whitfield —  
Age 32,  
Joined Marlowe-  
Sachs in March 1982.  
Earnings for year  
ending April 1983 —  
£22,000 and BMW.  
Previous occupation  
— Law.  
Previous Salary  
— £3,800.



Marlowe-Sachs are intermediaries in the field of Unit Trusts, Pensions, Investments (onshore and offshore), and Insurance. We are expanding our operations and require intelligent, energetic individuals aged 25-40 for our Head Office in the City.

Telephone 01-242 2420

28 Greville Street, London EC1

**Marlowe Sachs**

## SENIOR GEOPHYSICISTS

### Seismic Data Processing

In order to cope with the increasing workload our seismic data processing department requires additional geophysicists. Applicants should have a minimum of two years experience with a good degree in a related discipline, and be able to demonstrate good grounding in all aspects of seismic processing. The successful applicants will be expected to work within a group structure but be able to handle projects with minimal supervision.

Salary is in the range £8500-£13000 depending on merit and experience, and for the right person career prospects with Seifel Geophysical are excellent.

CONTACT MR S LANCHESTER, AREA GEOPHYSICIST.

## SEISMIC APPLICATION PROGRAMMERS

### Graphic Programmers and Research Geophysicists

To join the research and development department, as part of an established effective team. You will become involved in 2-D and 3-D seismic methods, interactive graphics and system development.

CONTACT DR S MARCOFF.

Seifel Geophysical will shortly be moving to new purpose-built premises in Torle, West London and will be upgrading all hardware to the latest technology equipment.

Applicants should write or phone for an application form, or send a comprehensive CV to:

Seifel Geophysical (UK) Limited, Turf Building, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9HT  
Tel: 01-568 3273



## Promotion & expansion creates opportunity

## YOUNG SALES EXECUTIVES

Advance your career in Technical Sales

c. £10,000 p.a. + bonus + car South & West H.C.'s

Our client is part of a major European group with international interests in chemicals, plastic components, and advanced surface materials. Already world leaders in a number of fields, they are now consciously introducing new products with high technological content, as a major long-range objective.

An internal promotion into marketing and the company's increased market penetration have created opportunities for two enthusiastic and highly motivated individuals. Aged c. 25-29, you will be well educated, preferably to Degree standard and will have at least 2 years proven sales experience. Ideally gained in a problem solving environment. The particular business sector, however, is less important than the ability to make decisions and act on self-initiative.

A first class benefits package including salary, bonus, company car, and pension scheme together with excellent prospects for further career development awaits the successful applicants.

Applicants please telephone John Gallacher on 01-537 0212, or write quoting Ref No: JTB84 with full personal and career details.

IPG Sales & Marketing Interface  
Julio House, 28-30 Portland St, London W1M 5AE Tel: 01-537 0212 (24hrs)  
Professionals in Selection & Search



## INDUSTRIAL DIRECTOR

The National Economic Development Office is seeking an Industrial Director. The Office serves the National Economic Development Council and its committees, and provides a creative link between management, unions and government in securing better economic and industrial performance.

The Industrial Director reports directly to the Director General. He heads the Industry Division, which supports some 45 tripartite sectoral committees — EDCs — and has a staff of about 110. Specific responsibilities include forward planning, management and review of the committees' operations, determining the Division's budgeting and staffing levels and identifying and developing work on issues to be taken forward by the National Economic Development Council itself. The Industrial Director maintains close contact with industry and the business world. He has an important representative role, which includes promoting action on NEDC recommendations and widening industrial discussion.

Qualifications include industrial/business experience at a senior level and a good understanding of the operations of government and of trade unions.

The current salary is £26,500 p.a. (adjustments are related to Civil Service Grade 2). The appointment will probably be for a fixed term of 4 or 5 years but this is subject to negotiation. There is a non-contributory pension scheme. The post is due to be filled from 1 July 1985.

Letters of application together with CV, other relevant information and names of referees should be sent to the Director General, National Economic Development Office, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX by 8 February 1985.



## ADVERTISING SALES

## EXECUTIVE BRIDES

AND SETTING UP HOME

The Condé Nast Publications, one of the most prestigious names in publishing, is looking for a Senior Sales Executive for BRIDES AND SETTING UP HOME Magazine. The person we are seeking will be: imaginative and creative in approach. An effective and skilled communicator. A possessor of the ability to develop, expand and successfully conclude existing and potential business. An individual with management potential.

If you feel you match the above, please write with full Curriculum Vitae to:

Barbara Tins (Personnel Director),  
The Condé Nast Publications Limited,  
Vogue House, Hanover Square,  
London, W1R 0AD.

## NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANISATION OF MALTA

### Vacancy for a CHIEF EXECUTIVE

We are looking for a Chief Executive with outstanding qualities and qualifications to take charge of the National Tourist Organisation of Malta.

The Chief Executive will be between 30 and 45 years of age, and will have recognised leadership qualities. The academic qualifications required are, a degree in Economics or Business Administration — a diploma in Tourism would be a definite asset. Experience in the tourism field, which the candidate will be required to demonstrate, must include a thorough knowledge of marketing and research, and the application of computers in these fields. We regard 8 years experience in a senior management position, which will have included direct responsibility for staff, as being the minimum requirement for the Chief Executive we are looking for.

Salary will be negotiable and commensurate with experience. The successful candidate will be required to serve in Malta for a minimum of 2 years.

Applications should be addressed to: The Ministry of Tourism (C.E.), Harpers Lane, Floriana, Malta, and must reach the Ministry by 21st January 1985.

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## CUSTOMER SERVICES EXECUTIVE INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AREA TO £12,000 AAE

Currently expanding their European operations division, our client, the market leader in Global Electronic Payment Systems is seeking an energetic young exec to fill this demanding post. This full liaison role covers all aspects of customer related operations in Europe and as such demands excellent interpersonal skills, systems awareness and the ability to work to tight deadlines. Applicants will have a strong awareness of the systems role within finance, probably drawn from within multi-national corporate treasury, international banking, on-line bureau services or payment systems itself. This operation is truly international and the ability to work as part of a multi-lingual team is imperative. Ages 25/30. Applications in strict confidence to:

Robert Milne: 01-439 4381

CRAWFORD EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

## STIMULATING PART-TIME JOBS

International Service Company, which gives assistance to employees of major UK and multi-national companies, has vacancies in our Home Finding department where we counsel incoming employees and find and show them properties.

We require well presented, caring, PEOPLE ORIENTATED, part-timers who can relate to incoming families and show them properties in London and the Home Counties. Full training and support is given, together with attractive daily remuneration.

Please phone MARIE NGUYEN  
for an application form  
81-629 8222

## NETWORK CONTROLLER

With at least two years' experience in network or a related communications field required to join a busy department of an international company. The work will involve the diagnosis of faults in Hardware/Software and the transmission of data, monitoring the front and processor, liaising with clients and engineers and producing, writing, editing and reports for management.

To apply you should be a recent, with a good telephone manner. Salary £12,000 plus benefits, worth over £1,000 p.a. Staff work essential (i.e. 07.00 - 24.00 Monday to Friday). Please send CV, accompanied by two referees, when possible to: S. Gwynne, Recruitment Officer, Debenhams International Ltd, Millbank House 55-64 City Road, EC1Y 2AL.

## CJA

### RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH  
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576  
Telex No. 887374

A key position in a stable part of the Gulf. Opportunity to accrue capital - initial 3 year contract.



## HEAD OF OFFICE SERVICES

GULF - MIDDLE EAST

CIRCA £30,000 FREE OF TAX

### MAJOR INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

For this new position, we invite applications from candidates, aged 30 - 37, who have acquired at least 5 years practical office service management experience of the development and implementation of information systems and office technology in an industrial or commercial environment. Responsibilities will cover the efficient operation and up-date of existing systems involving major main-frames, a micro-computer network, and advanced word processing and electronic mail etc. Close liaison will be maintained with all heads of departments. The ability to identify, plan and implement the most cost effective systems is key to the success of this appointment. Initial salary negotiable circa £30,000 free of local taxes, plus free accommodation and utilities, car allowance, health care, provident fund, assistance with education expenses, air passages for leave and children's education. Applications in strict confidence under reference HOS 4310/TT, to the Managing Director: CJA.

Excellent opportunity to join an accelerated experience programme offering on-going career development to a junior management position within 21 months



## RECENT GRADUATES - DRINKS MARKETING & SALES

U. K. LOCATIONS

£7,250-£8,250 + COMPANY CAR

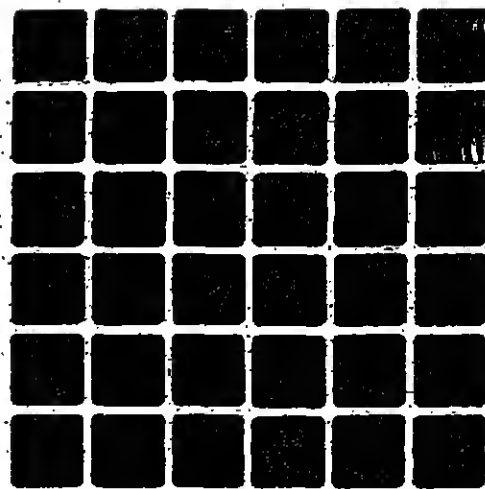
### LEADING BROADLY-BASED GROUP WITH WORLDWIDE INTERESTS

We invite applications from recent graduates, aged 22-25, who are either looking for their first appointment in the commercial world, or from those who seek a change of direction to a faster-moving company. The successful candidates will spend their first 12 months selling and merchandising the company's brands to national grocery multiples, etc. Following this, there will be 9 months spent on specific projects in sales, marketing, finance, distribution or production, prior to a first junior management appointment. Essential qualities are the ability to relate at all levels, together with demonstrable commercial flair, resilience and the flexibility of approach required to make an effective contribution to the continued success of the company. Initial salary negotiable in the range £7,250-£8,250 + company car, contributory pension and free life insurance. Applications, in strict confidence, under reference RG 266/TT, to the Managing Director-ACP

35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 OR 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-638 5216  
Please only contact us if you are applying for one of the above positions

## HONOURS GRADUATES

# Seeing is believing?



If you look directly at the grid, you will see a series of grey dots between the squares. They don't exist. Your eyes are being deceived by an optical illusion.

Dealing with things that are not always as they seem on the surface is an everyday part of the Tax Inspectors' work. In assessing the tax liabilities of businesses of all types and sizes they must apply their powers of analysis and perception — sometimes intuition — in reaching a fair conclusion. All part of a distinctive career of exceptional challenge and variety, which offers a structured and progressive path for the ambitious.

Through intensive training, you will develop the skills of a lawyer, advocate, accountant, investigator, negotiator and manager. Within a few months you can expect to be handling your own casework. After 3 years you will be managing a sizeable team of staff, and in due course, you should be running your own tax district.

Qualifications: Under 36 and a First or

Second class honours degree or an acceptable equivalent qualification. Final Year Students may apply.

Starting salary according to qualifications and experience from £6015 to £8625 for those aged under 26 and from £8625 to £9495 for those 26 and over. You should be earning at least £9135 after 2 years and, 3 years later, you should be on a scale rising from £12,895 to £17,465. If you fulfil your promise, you should later be on a scale rising to £21,630. Beyond this there are opportunities for further promotion to the most senior grades in the Civil Service. SALARIES HIGHER IN LONDON. Training can usually begin at an office in the area of your choice.

To find out more and for an application form write to Civil Service Commission, Alcester Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: A/85/320/331.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

## Purkey Co, Inc. and Advance Machine Corporation,

Two Los Angeles area manufacturing concerns, wish to hire following personnel.

1. Profile duplicating machinist for milling machines — conventional and numerical control. Minimum five (5) years experience.

2. Aerospace sheet metal mechanics. Minimum five (5) years experience.

3. Master layout inspectors for both airplane profile machine manufacturing facility and metal fabrication facility.

Principals will be in Los Angeles, January 28-30 to interview. Please forward resumes to Karen Jellist, c/o Law Office of Richard Fraide, 130 South Main Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. Please call 213-229-2229 to set up interview time. Legal fees for proper US work permits & employee transportation paid for by company.

## Graduate Sales Trainees, London WC2

Ambitious positive-thinking young graduates are invited to apply for vacancies with a market-leader of the Computer Services Industry.

These opportunities provide a structured career path involving an active support role which is salaried plus commissions, leading to a front-line sales position which can command some of the highest earnings in the industry.

You have recently graduated, are articulate, presentable and determined to succeed. Telephone Roger Evans during office hours on 01-636 8411.

## Career Opportunities in Recruitment

London St Albans Windsor Guildford

Expansion demands additional dynamic and enthusiastic achievers experienced in recruiting for Accountancy, Marketing or Technical appointments, including Electronics and Telecommunications. Graduates offering relevant experience will be given full training.

Energy and application earns high basic salary, bonus, private health care plus car after qualifying period. Contact Lawrence Lock MID.



Management Personnel  
York House, Cherry Street, Guildford, Surrey  
Tel: (0483) 84857. Fax: (0483) 273205

## HELP OLDER PEOPLE

WI - SAL NEG

Success after sixty is the social service division of a major employment agency group and helps people over 60 to continue in employment. For its main office in Old Broad Street, WI, we wish to recruit experienced and motivated people to help older people in a variety of ways.

Please ring 01-628 6004. Career Care Group Ltd.  
1 Glen House, St. Paul's, London SW1.



# General Appointments

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

## Stopping your own business

For the past few years we have been urged to start our own businesses and many have responded. According to a recent Labour Market Quarterly, published by the MSC, self-employment rose from 1.84m in 1979 to 2.15m by March 1984, thus reversing a trend between 1971 to 1979 when the number of self-employed fell by 100,000.

Starting your own business has received plenty of coverage, but stopping your own business is hardly mentioned. As a recent Oun & Bradstreet survey showed, business failures are continuing at a record level. Total company liquidations in England and Wales for the first nine months of 1984 were 9,890, a 6.7 per cent increase over the figures for January to September 1983. Over the same period bankruptcy among firms, partnerships and individuals soared to 6,229, a massive rise of 25 per cent over the same nine months in 1983.

The penalties for getting it wrong when running your own business can be swiftness - and not only in the financial sphere. Individuals who have traded without the protection of a limited company are personally liable for their debts and can be made bankrupt. Many small businesses trade as limited companies where directors are not personally liable if the company has to go into liquidation. However, the directors will often have had to make a personal guarantee to pay back any monies

### The procedures are archaic

borrowed, the most common form being as a second charge against their home.

Bankruptcy legislation dates from the Bankruptcy Act of 1914, with some modifications contained in the 1976 Insolvency Act. The somewhat archaic procedures are due to be updated in a Bill currently before Parliament, which embraces some of the recommendations made in 1982 by the Cork Review Committee on Insolvency Law, but the present legislation makes it hard for a trader to come to an informal arrangement with creditors to avoid bankruptcy.

It is illegal to continue trading if a limited company cannot meet its debts or obligations. However, there is, as the Cork Review Committee states, a difficult balance to draw between the "right of an honest and prudent businessman who is prepared to work hard and continue to trade out of his difficulties, if he can genuinely see a light at the end of the tunnel, and the corresponding obligation to put up the shutters, where by continuing to trade he would be doing so at the expense of his creditors and in disregard to those business considerations which a reasonable businessman is expected to assume."

Many insolvents delude themselves, their families, employees,

### Corinne Julius on the perils of bankruptcy

customers and suppliers, and the more emotional and personal their involvement the more difficult it is to accept that things are not right.

Classically, a business going bankrupt will have been started by someone with a skill or trade and the desire to be the boss. Such a person is very skilled at the job, but totally lacking in financial and administrative knowledge or experience. The company has to be registered for VAT, pay tax, and take on employees. The undertaking is often under-capitalised and money is raised through a bank which normally insists on a personal guarantee from the principal, usually through a charge on the matrimonial home.

The business starts off quite well, a good relationship is established with the local bank manager who may then be transferred, taking the account with him, and causing communication difficulties. Companies heading for trouble often use VAT or PAYE payments to finance their business under the common misapprehension that the Inland Revenue or Customs, who collect VAT, have nothing to gain by pushing a company into liquidation or an individual into bankruptcy, yet nearly 75 per cent of all bankruptcy petitions are filed by government departments. The Revenue, DHSS and Customs are preferential creditors and demand prompt payment.

It is essential to act promptly when financial difficulties arise and to seek advice from accountants or lawyers specialising in bankruptcy or liquidation work. It may be possible to save the business or at least make arrangements to get out with the minimum of financial and emotional problems. It is vital for the small businessman to pay strict attention to cash management and important to find a good accountant.

If a petition for bankruptcy is filed the matter remains a private affair until a receiving order is made. This is then advertised and the Official Receiver is appointed to sort out the finances until a meeting of the creditors is called to decide whether the Official Receiver should stay or a private liquidator should be called in. A liquidator is normally appointed only if there is real money or assets remaining in the business. The Official Receiver will require a full life history from the bankrupt and a statement of affairs. There will be a public examination by the Official Receiver, which looks at all past financial transactions and the bankrupt's lifestyle, to ascertain that there has not been any intent. Creditors may attend, although they rarely do. An undischarged bankrupt cannot have a bank account, cannot manage,

or be a director of a limited company, cannot incur credit over £50 without disclosing his undischarged bankruptcy, and must live in the pocket of the Official Receiver or Trustee until his discharge. It is possible to apply to the Courts under Section 26 of the 1914 Bankruptcy Act for discharge, automatic after five years.

The trustees or Official Receiver will have the authority to dispose of all the bankrupt's assets in order to clear debts. Forced sale value generally represents only a tiny value of what goods are worth, raising little for creditors. A bankrupt is entitled to retain only the tools of his trade, clothes and bedding for himself and wife and family in a value of £250. In practice the Official Receiver will take a more considerate view.

Banks are not keen to be seen making people homeless. They usually play fair where the family home has been put up as security, but only if they think that their erstwhile customer has been honest with them. Recent experience shows that bank managers are themselves under pressure and seem to be taking a tougher line.

If a possession order is made for the property, it does at least oblige the local authority to re-house the family. Frequently the wife has agreed to put up her jointly-owned home as security and it is usually the husband's business, without thinking through the implications and all too often the family does not discuss the business financial problems.

The final crash and subsequent loss of a home can, in addition to the

### You no longer trust your own judgement

practical difficulties, cause serious emotional problems.

As the survivor of a creditors' meeting put it: "losing your own business is like losing a child that you have nursed through a long sickness. You feel aimless and lost. You have let down yourself, your wife, your family and your suppliers. You have nothing to do and a lot of time to do it in. You no longer trust your own judgement."

The wife may lose her home and social circle and can be thrust on to the labour market with few skills. Members of one family, who had to quit their home, more than 11 years ago, still shudder at the memory of their damp, dark, over-crowded flat after their spacious suburban home.

Bankruptcy often means owing money to friends or people seen regularly in your locality. Bankrupts and their families are unable to participate in the social whirl. Friends are easily embarrassed. Children may have to change school and for all members of the family it will mean a change of lifestyle. Despite the fact that business bankrupts are rarely scoundrels, the stigma remains.

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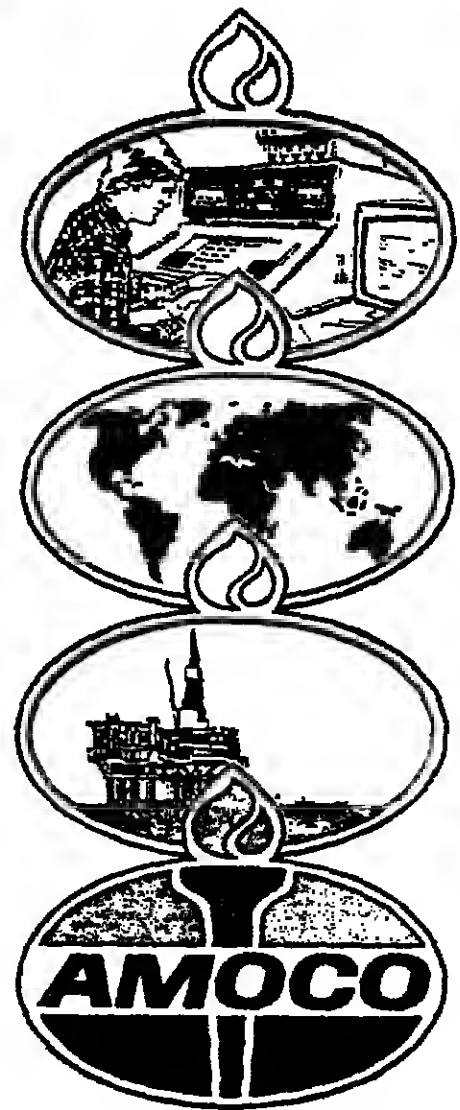
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## AN IMPORTANT PUBLIC SERVICE APPOINTMENT FOR A TOP MANAGER

To take over the key role of Director of Housing for the London Borough of Lambeth we're seeking a top manager with experience of the public sector (not necessarily Housing), who is skilled at dealing with bureaucracy and fully aware of local government problems and the commitment required to convert policies into action.

Statistically, our housing services are substantial by any standards - 49,000 dwellings with a capital value of £1.5 billion, rental income of £65 million, a Housing Directorate with over 1500 staff and an annual budget of £85 million.

We are seeking an experienced manager who has operated successfully at a senior level in a public service environment. Candidates will need to prove their ability to manage a very large organisation and show an imaginative approach to achieving results in a demanding environment of innovative change. Building an effective management team and developing management information and financial control systems are considered particularly important qualities.

But at the end of the day your responsibilities to your own staff, to the politicians, the Chair of the Housing Committee and to all other agencies, are matched by those to our tenants, particularly those in need - the poor, the elderly, the handicapped and those likely to suffer discrimination.

Equal rights and opportunities are more than just Lambeth policies - as a large, multi-racial inner city borough they are a way of life which the Director of Housing plays a

vital part in promoting and developing.

That's one of the reasons why we are decentralising our housing services into a network of Neighbourhood Housing Offices which serve our tenants on a local, more knowledgeable and sympathetic basis rather than the traditional, remote 'Town Hall' approach.

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For an informal discussion telephone John George, Chief Executive on 01-274 7722 Ext. 2135.

For a detailed information package and application form contact The Senior Personnel Officer, Directorate of Management Services, London Borough of Lambeth, 18 Brixton Hill, London, SW2. Telephone 01-274 7722 Ext. 3014, quoting ref. H1/85.

Closing date 31st January, 1985.

Preliminary interviews will be held on 11th and 12th February, final interviews 18th and 19th February.

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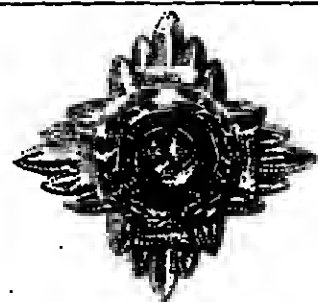
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Newman Publishing  
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